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2002

Town of Meredith New Hampshire



2002 Annual Report



2002 Town of Meredith Annual Report

Featured in the pictures on the front cover are:

Meredith Water Department

Employees:	Years of Service
Dan Cutting	14
Chuck Wade	8
Lee Bavis	2
Robert Hill	18

Upper left photo (Left to Right)

Meredith Public Library

Employees:	Years of Service
Linda Morgan	2
Carol Gable	5
Cynthia Lowman	1
Joan O'Neil	9
Barbara Clymer	9
Bernadette Loesch	10
Prudence Tylenda	5
Marilyn Rushton	38
Susan Brackett	10
Lydia Torr	28
Julia Hodges	4
Lois Morris	1

Upper right photo (Front Row L-R) (Back Row L-R)

Meredith Police Department

Employees:	Years of Service	Employees:	Years of Service
David Smith	6	Tonia Sorell	4
Robert Nedeau	1	Robert Nichols	14
Mark Chase	6	Thomas Dawson	3
Robert Chance III	8	John Eichhorn	4
Michael Harper	7	Deborah Lewis	14
James Brunt	2	Keith True	10
Scott Weiss	3	Maryann Ogden	7
Gregory Pelczar	14	Glenn Rollins	14
Bart Merrill	3	Kevin Morrow	14
Christine Fecteau	6	John Curran	25

Lower photo (Left to Right)

Missing from the Library photo: Gracemarie Ainsworth and Patricia Plattner.
Missing from the Police photo: Tammy Baiocchetti, Timothy Britt, Matthew Curran,
Ava Dungelman, Jane Macfadzen, Philip McLaughlin and Jennifer Rollins.

THE TOWN OF
MEREDITH
NEW HAMPSHIRE



2002

ANNUAL REPORT

for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

TOWN REPORT DEDICATIONS

The 2002 Town Report is dedicated in memory of the following two distinguished outstanding citizens:



Barbara Annalee Davis Thorndike
1915 - 2002

Annalee Thorndike was born in Concord on February 11, 1915. After high school, she attended classes at the Manchester Institute of Arts and Sciences. Annalee began selling her poseable felt dolls as early as the 1930's to the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen for \$1.25 a piece.

In 1941, she married Charles "Chip" Thorndike and together they formally began the doll business in 1955. She was known as the originator and founder of Annalee Mobilitree Dolls, Incorporated. The purpose of her dolls was to tell a story and her very own elf like face served as the model for the individually hand-painted dolls of all shapes and sizes.

In 1997, Annalee officially retired and at that time, the company was listed as the 42nd largest employer in the state of New Hampshire.

Last summer the Town of Meredith renamed Hemlock Drive to: *Annalee Lane*. This is the road that leads to the Annalee Doll and Gift Shops in Meredith.

Annalee will always be remembered for her fascinating dolls.

TOWN REPORT DEDICATIONS



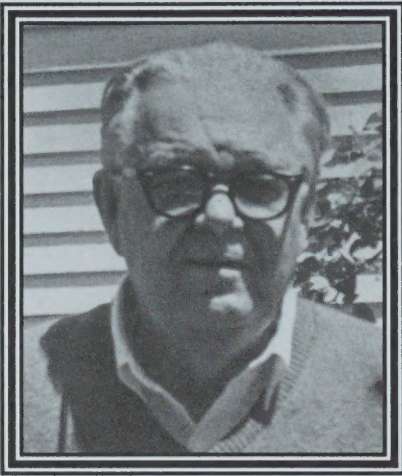
Janet R. Rollins
1947 - 2002

Janet R. Rollins was born on April 6, 1947 and grew up in Lancaster, New Hampshire and attended Plymouth State College. Janet served as Secretary to the Meredith Town Manager and the Board of Selectmen from 1988 to June of 2002. Her bright, vivacious smile was a welcome beacon to everyone who came into the Town office or attended a selectmen's meeting.

Janet was a loving wife to her husband Glenn, and a warm, supportive mother to her two children, Jennifer and Christopher.

In addition to her regular position with the Town, Janet was a Deputy Forest Fire Warden. She was the Secretary and a member of the Board of Directors for the Altrusa Club of Meredith for four years and served as President of the State of New Hampshire Municipal Secretaries Association for seven years. She volunteered on service projects for the Meredith Main Street Program and various other Town projects. She was an avid NASCAR fan and enjoyed camping and reading. Known for her caring heart and wonderful sense of humor, Janet was a cherished friend and co-worker. She will always hold a special place in the hearts of the many people whose lives she touched.

IN SPECIAL MEMORIAM

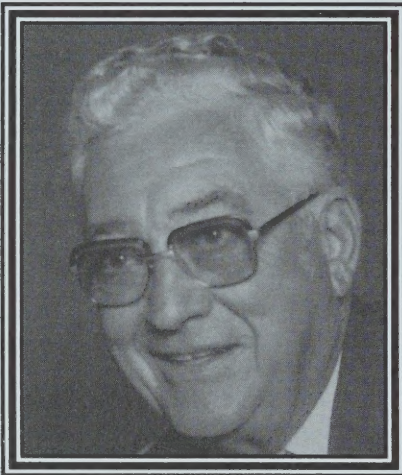


Gen. Roy L. Atteberry, Jr.

Roy L. Atteberry was born in Dallas, Texas on March 30, 1917. Roy enlisted in the Army and then graduated from West Point, class of 1941. He served in World War II and also served in the Korean conflict and two tours in the Vietnam War. He remained in the Army until he retired as Brigadier General in 1971.

He served the Town of Meredith as a selectman for six years and was a charter member of the Elderberry's Group.

Roy was a very loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

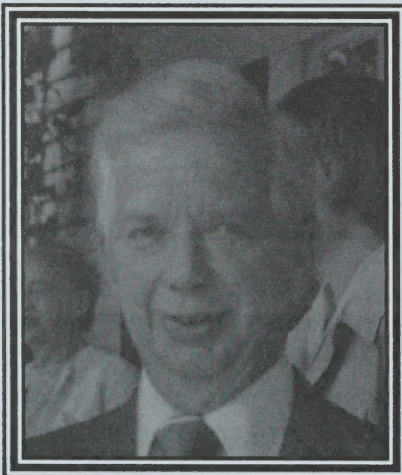


Mr. Martin E. Heffernan

Martin E. Heffernan was born in Portsmouth and attended Keene Teachers College receiving a Bachelors Degree in Industrial Arts in 1933. Mr. Heffernan taught Industrial Arts at Hanover Junior High School, while studying for his Masters in Education at Boston University.

He attained the rank of Lt. Commander in the Navy during World War II. He survived attacks from Japanese naval gunfire and torpedo attempts. His Navy vessel was hit by a kamikaze suicide plane, which caused it to sink. After two days in the sea, a friendly vessel rescued Martin and other survivors.

In 1955, Marty took a position as Superintendent of Schools in Meredith and the six towns that would comprise SAU 2, devoting the last 18 years of his educational career to the betterment of education here, as well as in the state.



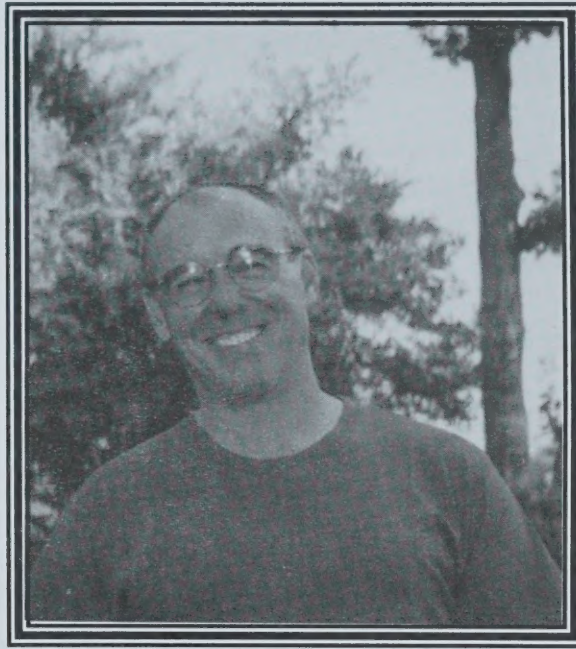
Mr. Edwin W. Moulton

Edwin W. Moulton was born in Meredith on October 16, 1918. He was a life long resident and graduated from Meredith High School, class of 1937. In 1941, Edwin graduated from UNH with honors.

He owned and operated the Moulton Dairy Farm in Meredith from about 1941 to the mid 1960's. Edwin then went to work for the State of New Hampshire Department of Health as a district health officer until his retirement in 1982.

Edwin was a member and past president of the former Plymouth Fair Association, a member of the Belknap County Extension Council, and a member and past president of the Belknap County Farm Bureau. He was also a director and past secretary of the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative.

IN APPRECIATION FOR DEDICATED SERVICE



Officer James Cerami

James Cerami started with the Meredith Police Department in April 1982. He quickly became a Field Training Officer, as well as, the Department's prosecutor. Jim was one of Meredith's motor officers and also took on the task of Mountain Bike Officer. Jim remained as a patrolman and the field-training officer until July 2001.

Officer Cerami took a one-year leave of absence from the department to join in the United Nations Civil Police servicing as an officer in Kosovo. Jim went through a very rigorous training and selection process to achieve this. He represented the United States along side those officers selected from seven other nations. Jim's duties in Kosovo included training the local police in patrol procedures, as well as, other regular patrol duties. Jim returned to the Meredith Police Department after his tour of duty and served out his time until he retired on September 1, 2002.

Jim was appreciated and liked by all of his coworkers and citizens of this community. After Jim retired from the Meredith Police Department he returned to Kosovo for an additional year tour of duty. His smiling face and wit are missed by all.

On behalf of the Residents and Property Owners of the Town of Meredith...

Thank you – for your dedicated service to this community.

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Robert C. Flanders, Chairman, 2003

Frank S. Michel, 2005

James F. Hughes, 2004

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Moderator, 2004

Town Clerk, 2005

Treasurer, 2005

Ralph Losee

Pauline L. Jones

Dennis A. Lamper

TOWN DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

Town Manager & Tax Collector

Finance Director & General Assistance Director

Town Planner

Code Administrator

Public Works Director

Assistant Public Works Director

Water & Sewer Superintendent

Assessor

Parks & Recreation Director

Librarian

Deputy Tax Collector

Deputy Town Clerk

Peter G. Russell

Brenda L. Vittner

John C. Edgar, AICP

William M. Edney

Michael Faller

Bruce MacBrien

Robert Hill

Lena Watson Bolton

Vint M. Choiniere, CPRP

Lydia Torr

Valerie "Vikki" Fogg

Sheila M. Vachon

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL COURT

Stephen H. Nedeau, 2004, Meredith

David M. Lawton, 2004, Meredith

Carl Johnson Sr., 2004, Senator

POLICE DEPARTMENT

John P. Curran, Chief

Kevin Morrow, Lieutenant

Glenn Rollins, Sergeant

James Cerami, Patrolman (retired)

Robert Chance III, Patrolman

Scott Weiss, Patrolman

Bart Merrill, School Resource Officer

James Brunt, Patrolman

Thomas Dawson, Patrolman

Christine Fecteau, Administrative Assistant

Dispatchers: Robert Nichols, Jane MacFadzen, Tonia Sorell

Keith True, Sergeant

Deborah Lewis, Patrolman

Michael Harper, Patrolman

John Eichhorn, Patrolman

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Charles G. Palm, Chief

Andre Kloetz, Assistant Chief

Tom Joslin, Assistant Chief

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Charles G. Palm

TOWN OFFICIALS

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Steven R. Bennett

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Positions vacant, contact Director, Vint Choiniere at 279-4538, if you are interested.

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS

Janice A. Phillips, 2004

Jonathan D. James, 2003

Louann Breen, 2006

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Deborah K. McNeish, Chairman, 2008

Lucienne M. Boulanger, 2004

Brenda L. Thibeault, 2006

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Paul Eldridge, Chairman, 2003

Laurie A. Brothers, 2005

Jay Plyler, 2004

Delphine Clough, 2004

Linda Matson, 2005

Duncan McNeish, 2003

Kathleen S. Peverly, 2003

PLANNING BOARD

Herb Vadney, Chairman, 2004

Joseph Nardone, 2005

William Finer, 2005

Roger Sorell, 2003

William Bayard, 2003

Pam Bliss, 2005

Robert Flanders, Selectmen's Representative

Alternates: James Hughes & Frank Michel, Selectmen 2004

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

John Mack, Chairman, 2005

Fred Hawkins, 2004

Kenneth Haley, 2003

Christopher Whitcher, 2003

Diane Hommel, 2005

Alternates:

Janice Joslin, 2003 & Jack Dever, 2005

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Philip Mercer, Chairman, 2005

John Sherman, Vice Chairman, 2003

Jacque Colburn, 2003

Robert LeCount, 2004

Peter Miller, 2005

Pauli Novicki, 2004

Alternates:

William Nunamacher, 2003

John Robinson, 2003

Jeannie Cooperman, 2004

LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES

William Bayard, 2005

Herb Vadney, 2005

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Report from the Meredith Board of Selectmen

Robert C. Flanders, Chairman

James F. Hughes and Frank S. Michel – Board of Selectmen

To Our Citizens of Meredith:

As we report at the close of 2002, we are pleased to report our community is in excellent financial condition because of our financial planning and use of expendable trusts for large future expenditures and our conservative philosophy. We will list a few highlights of activities over this last year and mention issues before us for our future consideration.

The Meredith Bay “No Wake” Zone was challenged this last summer to reduce its location and size. After hearings were held by the New Hampshire Department of Safety, they determined it should remain as is. We are pleased to have a safety zone at our town waterfront providing calmer enjoyment for family activities.

We continue as a member of the coalition communities working to find a better solution to educational funding rather than only the property tax. As a donor, Meredith will be sending \$729,000.00 to the State for 2003.

Our Prescott Park expansion project was scheduled for completion in 2003, but fell behind. The six new tennis courts were completed and utilized in 2002 but the grass will not be ready for field use on the soccer or baseball fields until the fall of 2003. The Prescott Park Committee plans an open house for the facility in June.

A new 160’ long dock was constructed at our Route 3 docking facility prior to Memorial Day. The additional docking spaces were heavily utilized during the summer.

Our Community Center Search Committee has been hard at work. They plan to have their proposal on display at Town Meeting for resident review.

We have appointed a steering committee to review and recommend any future Tax Increment Finance Districts to the Selectmen and future Town Meetings. This process could capture new growth tax dollars of a district to support municipal infrastructure improvements or future tax base growth and/or employment opportunity.

Our Capital Improvement Program continues to provide remarkable assistance to us and the Town as a financial planning tool.

This last year saw construction of the new Catholic Church on Route 25 near the Center Harbor town line.

Massive private construction projects are planned for 2004:

Hampshire Hospitality Holdings will purchase the old church and develop the site into Church Landing with a further extension of the town’s lakeside walkway; Meredith Bay Village is under construction providing 70 over the age of 55 residential units on the Old Bickford Farm on High School Hill off Route 25; Meredith-Harley Davidson Buell new facility will be under construction near Hart’s Restaurant; Johnson and Dix are planning to replace their Mountain Mart Store on Route 25; other projects will be under construction as well.

We have discussed only a few activities within Meredith this last year. Please review the Town Manager’s and other department reports to learn of additional activities.

Board of Selectmen continued...

We once again want to thank you for your interest and volunteerism and also our Town Employees for their dedication, which together allows Meredith's projects and tasks to be so successful. Meredith is special because of you, THANK YOU.

In closing, we have tried to address all issues brought before us. Some issues can be addressed more quickly or satisfactorily than others. Thank you for your support, confidence and patience, which makes serving you a rewarding experience.

Town Manager's Report

To the Citizens and Taxpayers of Meredith:

As we close yet again another busy and hectic year in Meredith, I wish to thank all of you for your input, support and ideas and especially our dedicated employees and community volunteers.

Sadness struck us, as my secretary of over thirteen years, Janet Rollins, was killed in a freak motorcycle training accident in June. Janet will be sorely missed but her spirit will remain with us always.

We had many projects under construction in 2003. Our landfill on Jenness Hill Road was closed under State and Federal guidelines. Meredith had set aside closure funds in an expendable trust for this purpose over the years so there will be no property tax impact for this construction.

Our highly visible construction was the waterline upgrade, sewer replacement /extension, street and sidewalk reconstruction on Plymouth Street and Route 3 North, and utilities to the Center Harbor Town Line. This construction project will be completed in the summer of 2003. This project is over 50% grant funded.

The intersection of Plymouth Street and Route 3 will be revamped next year. The intersection will be more of a T stop, providing a much safer intersection. We received permits to replace our Route 3 boardwalk at the Town Docks. Final construction funding is requested by warrant article this year.

Public Works undertook many spot road improvements. An environmental grant was received to improve drainage and sediment control of water draining into Lake Winnisquam at the Black Brook area. Blasting removed safety hazards at locations on Chemung and Camp Waldron Roads. We continue to improve our streets and roads for your safety and convenience.

Although we experience much involvement and volunteerism in Meredith, we need to develop additional social capital to make our community even better. Although Meredith is a very diverse community, it is yours, please get involved! I have spoken or worked with many of you citizens and taxpayers, but certainly not everyone. If you have questions, opinions or concerns, please either see me or contact me at the Town Office, 279-4538.

In closing, as I've said in previous years, I truly enjoy working for and with you all. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Peter G. Russell, Town Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Record of 2002 Meredith Town Minutes

State of New Hampshire

TO THE INHABITANTS OF MEREDITH QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS:

You are hereby notified to meet at St. Charles Auditorium, 281 Daniel Webster Highway, in said Town on the second Tuesday of March next, March 12, 2002, from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM for the casting of ballots; and at 7:00 PM, Wednesday, March 13, 2002, at the Inter-Lakes Junior/Senior High School Gymnasium, 1 Laker Lane, in said Town to act on the following articles:

BALLOT ARTICLES TO BE ACTED UPON

ARTICLE 1

To bring your ballots for:

One (1) Selectman for three (3) years	
Frank Michel	438
One (1) Town Clerk for three (3) years	
Pauline L Jones	712
One (1) Town Moderator for (2) years	
Ralph Losee	690
One (1) Town Treasurer for (3) years	
Dennis A. Lamper	693
One (1) Trustee of Trust Funds for two (2) years	
Louann Breen (Write-in)	5
One (1) Supervisor of the Checklist for six (6) years	
Deborah K. McNeish	692
Two (2) Library Trustees for three (3) years	
Laurie A. Brothers	693
Linda Matson (Write-in)	61
One (1) Library Trustee for two (2) years	
Jay Plyler (Write-in)	11

ARTICLE 2

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with Impact Fees?

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendment authorizes the Planning Board, as a condition of subdivision or site plan approval, to require a developer to pay reasonable fees or exactions for off-site improvements occasioned by the proposed development.

YES 563 NO 152

ARTICLE 3

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with amendments to the Flood Plain Development Ordinance?

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendments are a series of editorial and housekeeping recommendations made in conjunction with the National Flood Insurance Program and the New Hampshire Office of State Planning. The proposal also includes an appeals section with variance standards and notification requirements.

YES 562 NO 123

ARTICLE 4

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with agricultural-related uses?

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendment defines the terms “Farms”, “Agriculture and Farming”, and “Farm Stand”. Additionally, the amendment establishes “Agriculture and Farming” and “Farm Stand” as permitted uses in the following districts: Forestry/Conservation (FC), Forestry/Rural (FR), Meredith Neck (MN), and Commercial-Route 3 South (CS).

YES 596 NO 111

ARTICLE 5

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with expansion of non-conforming structures?

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendment (1) establishes methodology for the determination of limits on the expandability of non-conforming structures, (2) establishes limits on the expandability of non-conforming structures allowed by Special Exception, (3) establishes a 25’ waterfront “Natural Woodland Buffer” within which the expansion of non-conforming structures is allowed only by variance, and (4) makes editorial and organization changes to existing provisions.

YES 521 NO 182

DELIBERATIVE SESSION

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to (i) raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed the sum of One Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$130,000) for the purpose of providing a neighborhood betterment assessment loan for Municipal sewer extension at East Bluff Village, said appropriations to be inclusive of contributions from other sources; (ii) to authorize the issuance of serial bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33, of the said appropriation, provided, however, that the total amount of bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of such grants-in-aid, or contributions from other sources; (iii) to authorize the Town Treasurer to make temporary borrowings, in accordance with the provisions of said Chapter, in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds or notes; and (iv) to authorize the Town Treasurer to determine the method and manner of sale of such bonds, notes and temporary borrowings, as shall be in the best interest of the Town, including the authority to enter into a Tax Regulatory Agreement containing such representations and covenants as are necessary to maintain such notes and temporary borrowings; to authorize the Selectmen and

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Town Manager to apply for and accept any contributions in aid of the project and to expend the appropriation in accordance herewith.

**(Passage requires affirmative vote of two-thirds present and voting)
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

Motion by Chairman Stephen Nedeau and Seconded by Selectman Jim Hughes that the Town adopt Article 6 as proposed.

Discussion: Chairman Nedeau explained that the residents of East Bluff Village have requested that the municipal sewer lines be extended to include the village on municipal sewer. The residents understand that this is a betterment assessment and each property unit will be assessed equally for the improvements. There are 18 properties affected by this article and there will be no cost to the taxpayers of Meredith for this project. This Article will give the Town authority to borrow funds on behalf of the residents of East Bluff Village and apply for any Grants that may be available.

No further discussion. Polls were opened at 7:15PM to remain open for one hour.

YES 126 NO 8

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to adopt New Hampshire RSA 162-K, allowing the Town Meeting to establish Municipal Economic Development and Revitalization Districts. Such districts allow public infrastructure improvements to be built or improved and any debt repaid by future tax increments within the proposed district; each proposed district shall have a development program and a tax increment financing plan prior to a future Town Meeting vote to approve a particular district.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Flanders that the Town adopt Article 7 as proposed and read.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes spoke to the article stating that this article is to see if the Town will allow Tax Increment Financing Districts within our community. This is enabling legislation when the need arises in the future when any type of economic development or we have to do some kind of infrastructure, such as water or sewer. Then we could come to a Town Meeting, present the proposal to those assembled there and actually create the district. The taxes from that district would go to pay back any infrastructure improvements.

Discussion: Karen Sticht asked, where are the improvements being made, will that district be asked to pay extra taxes and are we creating donor and receiver districts? Selectman Hughes replied, No, they will pay the same taxes as anybody else, according to their assessment. But the taxes from the District as a whole would be used as a separate item to pay for any bonding cost for infrastructure. Karen continued, "If the taxes from a separate District are going to be paying for the growth, then how is that not increasing that Districts taxes." Town Manager Peter Russell explained, "The way Tax Increment Financing Districts works, the new taxes generated by the increase tax base is what actually pays off any indebtedness for that. What we would do is look at a particular District at that time, look at the assessed value of that entire District, effectively what we do is freeze the assessed value at that point in time, so that any additional growth within that District new taxes would pay off any debt that we created. Once the debts are paid then the tax base would be increased for the entire community and the School District and the County as well.

It's actually a way to pay for public improvements prior to the actual use of general taxation. What we want to do is take advantage of a way to pay for public infrastructure improvements that would attract increases in our tax base." Steve Merrill of Veasey Shore Road asked the intent of the Article and if the Selectmen had a targeted infrastructure improvement that they had in mind? Mr. Hughes responded, "No, there is not at this point in time." Mr. Merrill continued, "If there is no evaluation increasing from infrastructure improvement then the cost would be born from the general tax fund?" Mr. Russell responded, "We wouldn't do an infrastructure improvement if there was no planned development within that particular district." This is a two-part process we are talking about tonight enabling legislation. We would have to come back to a future Town Meeting with any proposed District and the Town Meeting would have to approve that particular District.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called for the vote. Article 7 passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable general fund Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Cygnet Shores Pump Station Fund for the purpose of renovating and replacing the sewer pump station located at Cygnet Shores on Pleasant Street, and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) toward this purpose and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated with in the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Motion by Selectman Flanders and Seconded by Chairman Nedeau that the Town adopt Article 8 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Flanders spoke to the Article: "The Cygnet Shores Pump Station located just off Pleasant St. is in serious need of repair or replacement. During the CIP process, the estimated expense of repairing or replacing the pump station was approximately \$200,000. This Article will allow the Town to set aside funds towards the project, which is planned for during 2004-2005. This expendable trust allows financial planning for a necessary infrastructure improvement to be completed in the near future."

Chris Whitcher spoke about his concern about contributing funds to a sewer system that people are already paying a fee for receiving that service. Why take general tax money when either the increase from a sewer rate or something similar to that and funds can be accumulated in some other sense? It is my opinion that they generate funds by the people that they hook up to the water and sewer system and those are put into an account. How much money is in that account for the people that are hooking up to the water and sewer? Mr. Russell responded that it is the Access Fee Account, that's a fee that is charged for new connections to the sewer system. The balance is in the Town Report, under the Trust Fund area." Chris Whitcher continued that he could not find it in this particular Town Report.

Finance Director Brenda Vittner answered, on page 62, under the Water Fund at the bottom, you will see reserved for special purposes, at the year-end it was \$98,703 in the Water Fund and in the Sewer Fund \$84,407. Chris Whitcher continued, that's over 170 thousand dollars in that particular fund. We have just had a recent rate increase in both water and sewer. Extra funds are being generated with that rate increase. I don't mind establishing a Trust Fund and taking those funds, which are probably illegal, I don't think we can attach water and sewer funds to a Trust Fund, can we clarify that. I am against using general tax dollars for establishing a Trust Fund for the repair of a water and sewer project that clearly charges for that service." Mr. Russell responded, "The funds that we charge, the quarterly fees, for both the water and sewer department were not increased to establish additional large amounts of money for Capital Improvements. What we have currently in the funds now is basically for emergency purposes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

only whenever necessary. We don't have a mechanism in place to actually generate additional dollars towards Capital Improvement replacement." Peter Brothers then addressed Mr. Whitcher question from his standpoint and was made from the basic assumption that from living here in Meredith, that it's basic facilities services that insure public health, safety or the welfare, is the fundamental responsibility of local government. When you live in a community there are key issues and those are items that will promote the growth and the stability and the economic vitality of an era. The issue is clear here, when you're speaking of broad based services, such as water and sewer, it only makes sense that we share that burden for the betterment of the community."

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called for a vote on the question and Article # 8 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable general fund Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Property Assessment Maintenance Fund for the purpose of reviewing, updating, revaluing or otherwise maintaining property assessments and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) toward this purpose and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated with in the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Motion by Chairman Nedeau, Seconded by Selectman Hughes that the Town Adopt Article 9 as proposed.

Discussion: Chairman Nedeau stated that due to the State Wide Property Tax debate, all towns and cities within New Hampshire must have certified assessments. The Town of Meredith is scheduled for certification during 2003. The Town is estimating the cost of approximately \$350,000. to review, update and revalue properties within Meredith to be compliant with the Department of Revenue. By setting aside funds, the Town does not incur additional interest payments on money borrowed for this project. Karen Sticht asked when was the last time we had a town assessment and since we have an unreserved undesignated fund balance of more than a million dollars, why isn't some of that money being used to fund some of these things we need to do? Mr. Russell responded, "Our last Town wide revaluation was back in 1988 and we have done two updates since then and we are currently doing what is referred to as neighborhood reviews and there are some updates based on the market if we see a market increase or decrease there are adjustments in relation to the valuation of the property.

What the State of New Hampshire found out when the Supreme Court decided the statewide property tax question was that our Constitution in NH, many years ago required that properties be valued every 5 years and that's never been enforced in NH. That's what we'll be looking at in 2003, certification for us. All communities in NH will supposedly be compliant within 5 years. We are in fact using our Fund Balance to pay for this. We are suggesting that we utilize a million, fifty thousand dollars of our Fund Balance to off set the tax rate and that is what we currently propose and that is what is in the budget. The State of New Hampshire recommends that we have a Fund Balance that exists between 5 & 10%. What we have right now as an un-audited fund balance is in the 9% range. The economy comes into play. Everyone knows what happened up in Berlin, they basically had to cut services. We do not want to get to a point that our Fund Balance is so low that we have to do something like that. Karen Sticht stated that keeping one million four hundred thousand dollars in the bank should pay for a lot of problems if problems result. If the State is requiring all the towns to have a full assessment every 5 years are they also giving a base comparison, so that we are all being assessed on the same properties equally? Are we going to be a donor Town for a long time? Peter Russell responded that the donor issue is different. The Legislature just

took a vote this last week to sunset the State Wide Property Tax and the issue is currently before the Senate and they will be voting on that but right now the House has voted that the State Wide Property Tax will sunset in the year 2004. The statewide property tax issue is a difficult one.

The State of NH will certify assessment practices as long as communities are doing assessments a certain way and that's all they will be certifying. Properties will be different from town to town and you will never see a comparison from community to community. Mark Flanders then asked that with all the Trust Funds and based on the fact that we're projecting to raise the tax rate, what would happen if we took some of the Expendable Trust Funds and instead of a hundred thousand and put seventy five thousand in it and paid a little off of some of these and maybe keep the tax rate flat? Selectman Flanders stated that they have looked at the infrastructure needs of the Town for the next 6 years and have tried to project a stable tax rate. We could take some money off the fund this year but we're still going to have to do this in the same time frame. So by saving a few pennies on the tax rate this year we'll be piling onto a future year. Selectman Flanders then repeated the savings that was made on the purchase of the new fire truck. Expendable Trust Funds are needed to keep the cost of projects down.

Peter Brothers spoke as chairman of the CIP committee and the importance of these funds for future projects. "CIP is basically an off- shoot of the Planning Board under the Statutes of the St. of NH for this Capital Improvement type of planning and the real benefit is exactly what Mr. Flanders explained to you. If we participate in this process and try to maintain a relative stable tax rate, co-ordinate our activities so that school district and citizen projects all have the proper priority, we can get a lot more done and have less impact on the taxes." Selectman Flanders spoke again on the reason behind the formation of the CIP and it's importance. Karen Sticht thanked whoever was responsible for putting the picture of Indian Island on the cover of the handout. Then she asked if the landfill closure and Prescott Park Expansion on page 7 are down to zero, shouldn't the money that we have been putting in reduce the budget, by that amount of money, because it isn't needed any more? Selectman Flanders addressed her question stating that the CIP Committee look at the projects that are needed and the Capital Improvement represents about 2 ½% of the budget. There was a period of about 10 years when we did almost nothing on infrastructure because the school bond was in place. We're trying to catch up for the projects that were not done. We are not spending the money again but we have other infrastructure needs."

Karen Sticht stated that when a number of people criticized the school for rolling over money from their bond, basically that's what we're doing when things are zeroed out." Selectman Flanders said that it is put out in a Warrant Article and not trying to sneak it behind any ones back, that's one major difference. If we don't keep up with these infrastructure projects sooner or later we'll have several major projects that have to be done at the same time and the tax rate is going to go through the roof. It's more economical to deal with these on a regular bases. This process is open to the public and I encourage all to get involved in July, October and November. Karen Sticht took offense because she has come to the Town Meeting and was asking questions. Chris Witcher addressed Selectman Flanders statement that over the past 10 years we didn't do much because of the school district bond. True we didn't bond much from 1988 to 1998 but projects were being done. Chris Witcher moved the question. No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called for a vote on Article 9, Motion passed in the Majority.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) for the purpose of State Aid Reconstruction Program – 2 to 1 match for improvements to various roads under the State Aid Reconstruction Program, provided that the State of New Hampshire appropriates Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00).

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Flanders that the Town adopt Article 10 as proposed and read.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes spoke to the Article: “ The Town of Meredith has participated with this State Program for many years, taking advantage of the 2 for 1 matching mechanism. The roads covered by this program located in the Town of Meredith are Meredith Neck Road, Barnard Ridge Road, Pease Road and Winona Road. So when repairs are necessary for those roads this money, 1/3 is from ours and the other 2/3 are from the State of NH.

No further Discussion.

Moderator Losee called for the vote. Article 10 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Employee Benefits Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Flanders and Seconded by Chairman Nedeau that the Town adopt Article 11 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Flanders spoke on the Article: “The purpose of this Article is to continue to set-aside funds for the unfunded liability for accumulated vacation and sick leave benefits for the Town of Meredith’s full-time employees. This is the 7th year the Town has appropriated funds to this expendable trust fund. The unfunded liability as reported on 12/31/2001 is \$261,017. Principal and interest available in the Expendable Trust Fund as reported on 12/31/2001 is \$77,777. The remaining unfunded liability is approximately \$183,240. The proposed deposit for the Budget year of 2002 is \$25,000, which will reduce the unfunded liability to approximately \$158,240.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called the vote. Article 11 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Open Space/Conservation Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Chairman Nedeau and Seconded by Selectman Hughes that the Town adopt Article 12 as proposed.

Discussion: Chairman Nedeau spoke to the Article: "The purpose of this article is to continue to allow the Conservation Commission and the Town of Meredith to maintain open space through the management, purchase or donation of land or easements within the town. The Town of Meredith currently sets aside the first \$10,000 from Current Use Penalty Assessments for the conservation of open space. With the continuing increases affecting real estate prices, the Town of Meredith will need to increase the monetary efforts for future preservation of open space. This is the 2nd year of this expendable trust. Principal and Interest available as of 12/31/2001 is \$25,035."

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called the question. Article 12 passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to be added to the Solid Waste Trailer Replacement Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Flanders that the Town adopt Article 13 as proposed and read.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes spoke to the Article: "The purpose of this article is to set-aside funds to purchase replacement trailers or add additional trailers as needed. The estimated life of a trailer is 5 to 10 years. The Town continually reviews anticipated changes in load weight limits and potential increases of community solid waste that may require an additional trailer. The current market price of one trailer is \$45,000. The Selectmen are agents to expend. This allows the Town to take advantage of pricing through a smooth bidding process and to obtain the best equipment for the best price in a timely manner when needed. This is the 5th year the Town has appropriated funds to this expendable trust fund. The Capital Improvement Committee has endorsed increasing this fund. Principal and Interest available at 12/31/2002 is \$91,134. This will be the final year for this appropriation. Funds will be available for replacement of trailers for the next 5-10 years." Chris Whitcher asked that Mr. Hughes repeat his statement that this will be the last year for this appropriation. Mr. Hughes stated, "This will be the final year for this appropriation, funds will be available for the purchase of trailers for the next 5-10 years. When we have purchased new trailers and expended the funds then we will come back and start to look for the next 5 to 10 year cycle." Chris Whitcher then asked how many trailers are in service? The answer from the Moderator was four. Chris continued asking if we are not planning to purchase another one this year. Selectman Hughes responded that was correct.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called the question. Article 13 passed in the majority

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Downtown Parking Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Motion by Selectman Flanders and Seconded by Chairman Nedeau that the Town adopt Article 14 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Flanders spoke to the article: "The purpose of this article is to set-aside funds to purchase or renovate areas for downtown parking. Principal and Interest balance at 12/31/2001 is \$360,694. The balance is a reasonable amount should the Calvary Bible Church property become available. If it does, a future Town Meeting would consider the proposed purchase. However, the current available funding is not sufficient should another property become available. This is the 4th year the Town of Meredith has appropriated funds to this expendable trust fund. Increasing this fund has been endorsed by the CIP Committee. The purpose of having an expendable trust with the Selectmen as agents to expend allows for smooth negotiations if and when properties become available." Ann Sprague asked for clarification on the \$360,000. then we add \$50,000. so that would be \$410,000. Selectman Flanders responded correct. Ann continued on how does this relate to another article coming up where there is another \$139,000. that we are asking to appropriate for down town parking.

Is that to purchase another piece of property?" Selectman Flanders responded that's a separate piece of property that's between Plymouth St. and Route #3. Ann continued saying that if we were to pass both of these articles then we would have, however much that adds up to, for downtown parking. Selectman Hughes responded \$523,000. Ann asked how many parking lots would that give to the downtown area if we were to expend all of those monies? Peter Russell responded that we have 2 or 3 pieces going all at once. We have been negotiating with the Calvary Bible Church to purchase that property when they decide to move and build the new church, they own the land but have currently not decided to build the new church yet. That particular property has 65 parking spaces with it. If we were to loose that it would devastate downtown parking. The property you are talking about is one of the few that is vacant near downtown. That could provide us with 32 additional parking spaces.

Chris Whitcher spoke again about the Trust Fund with a particular amount of money and wanted to know the up-dated value of the Calvary Bible Church property. Selectman Nedeau responded that Chris was on the Board when that number was brought out and that nothing has changed. We're only waiting for the Church to make a decision as to when they will move. Mark Flanders asked if this purchase would only be for the parking lot area? Selectman Nedeau answered, it was for the entire property. Mark Flanders asked if they were going to demolish the building to make more parking and Selectman Nedeau responded that at this time we don't know.

There was more discussion on the Calvary Bible Church property by Selectman Hughes. Karen Sticht referred to last years' discussion of this same article and the number between \$360,000 and \$400,000 was the value at that time, can you tell me how the \$500,000 amount came up? Selectman Flanders explained that the amount is in case any property, both the church property and any other that may become available; we will then have the flexibility to secure it. Karen Sticht asked if the Town was negotiating for the Bird property next to the Humiston building and Peter Russell responded no we are not and that the Library Trustees were negotiation but have suspended their negotiation at this point in time. Brian Flanders asked what the final goal is for the downtown-parking situation. Selectman Nedeau responded that we would be interested in any parcel of land that would benefit the community. Selectman Hughes then elaborated on the factors that come into consideration with the growth of a community and we don't know what that future growth will be but we must be ready for it.

(Moderator Losee then closed voting on Article 6 and asked for the count)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Peter Brothers spoke further on the negotiations of the Calvary Bible Church and why the funds in this current Expendable Trust Fund may not be used for this purchase. Peter Russell responded that the current balance that is in the fund is a number we talked with the Calvary Bible Church about some time ago. We have the money set aside when and if it becomes available, now we're saying let's look at other opportunities. Article 21 is coming up and that is one parcel that is currently available and we have a purchase and sale on that property through this evening. Peter spoke further on the need for downtown parking.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called the vote. Article 14 passed in the majority.

Moderator Losee then gave the results of Article 6.

Yes 126

No 8

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Boardwalk Improvements Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Nedeau and Seconded by Selectman Hughes that the Town adopt Article 15 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Nedeau spoke to the Article: "The purpose of this article is to set-aside funds to reconstruct the boardwalk at the Town Docks. Currently the estimated price for reconstruction is \$150,000. The Principal and Interest balance at 12/31/2001 is \$50,071. This is the 2nd year the Town of Meredith has appropriated funds to this expendable trust. Karen Sticht asked how the sum of \$150,000 for a final cost was reached and referred to page 18 of the 2001 Town Report when we had the discussion last year and you were hoping that it could be done for under \$60,000 and you were planning for better pricing in the future than that. Peter Russell stated that what we have had four previous estimates was under \$60,000 and that's what we proposed. Last year we had an estimate of \$148,000 and that's why we brought this article forward to you last year to establish this fund because it was not a \$60,000 item. That's why we started the expendable trust fund last year. Our intent is to go for the wetlands permit approval this year and then we would have 5 years on that permit. Then we would be able to put the project out to bid and then get the firm price for the construction of it.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called the vote. Article 15 carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the Municipal Building Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Flanders that the Town adopt Article 16 as proposed and read.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Discussion: Selectman Hughes spoke to the article: “ The purpose of this article is to set-aside funds to purchase/build or renovate land and/or buildings suitable for the municipal offices for the Town of Meredith. Space in the current building is inadequate for Municipal operations and is in constant repair and maintenance. This is the 7th year the Town of Meredith has appropriated funds to this expendable trust fund and the CIP Committee has endorsed this. The Principal and interest balance at 12/31/2001 is \$335,736. Future Town Meetings would consider any proposed plan for Municipal Office facilities.” No further discussion.

Question was called and Article 16 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to be added to the Community Center Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Flanders and Seconded by Selectman Nedeau that the Town adopt Article 17 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Flanders spoke to the article: “ The purpose of this article is to set-aside funds towards a Community Center for the Town of Meredith residents. During 2002, the Community Center Committee will be re-vitalized. The objective for the committee is to re-evaluate the prior Community Center proposal and begin looking towards the future. The Town would like to bring a bond issue before Town Meeting within the next few years. The continued contributions to this expendable trust will minimize future bonding needs. This is the 3rd year the Town of Meredith has appropriated funds to this expendable trust. Increasing this fund has been endorsed by the CIP Committee and the principal and interest balance at 12/31/2001 is \$154,655.”

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called the vote. Article 17 passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00) to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Nedeau and Seconded by Selectman Hughes that the Town adopt Article 18 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Nedeau explained the purpose of this article is to set-aside funds to replace fire/rescue equipment. The next planned equipment purchase is during 2005. The current plan is to replace the oldest pumper truck, which is a 1976, (14 E 2) with an aerial truck, which is estimated to cost \$700,000. When this truck is replaced, it will be over 30 years old. The balance towards the next purchase is \$169,442. Chris Whitcher asked that looking at that particular trust fund on page 67 is there a balance of over \$299,000 for that fund? Mr. Russell responded that's what is in the Town Report but we must remember we also owe the \$130,000 on the last truck we just got.

So that request was made from the Trustee of Trust Funds after the close of last year. Take \$130,000 away from that \$299,000 and that brings us to the balance of \$169,000. No further discussion. Article 18 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of funds from the Pleasant Street Water/Sewer Project to the Plymouth Street/Route 3 North Water/Sewer Project in the amount of One Hundred Seven Thousand, Seven Hundred Ninety Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$107,790.50) which is the unexpended process of the Pleasant Street Water/Sewer Project.

(Passage requires affirmative vote of two-thirds present and voting)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Flanders that the Town adopt Article 19 as proposed. (Moderator Losee then read an amendment to the last line to read, "unexpended balance of the Pleasant Street Water/Sewer Project.")

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Flanders that the Town adopt Article 19 as proposed and reread.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes spoke to the article: "During the first half of 2001, the Pleasant Street Water and Sewer Project was finalized and upon payment of all vendors, \$107,790.50 was unexpended. The Town requests authorization to reallocate the unexpended funds to the Plymouth Street/Route 3 North Water and Sewer Project. Doing so will reduce the amounts borrowed during the final funding stages of that project." Chris Whitcher stated that when this was first proposed the price tag was 1.8 million dollars, 9 hundred thousand dollars of that was anticipated in revenues from a grant, 9 hundred thousand was to be spent from a bond issued. What is the cost today of that project breaking it down into how many dollars will be raised by taxes and how much anticipated by a grant. Peter Russell answered that the complete project hasn't gone out to bid yet but going out to bid next month. So there are no final numbers for the project but it is anticipated that the actual construction of the project will be around 2.3 million dollars. The 1.8 estimate that was given to us is three years old. As it stands right now we will get at least a million-dollar grant from the Rural Development Administration and there will be some additional money available through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.

Steve Merrill asked if the funds were from the General Fund or from the Water and Sewer. Selectman Hughes indicated that they come from the General Fund. Chris Kelly asked if the \$107,790.50 is what was left over after the project was finished. Peter Russell responded that yes, it was. It would be the Selectmen and the Town Meeting decision what to use this money for. It could go into that fund except it's suppose to go into a bonded project and the only other bonded project that we're into now is the Plymouth Street project. So we are proposing to take advantage of this bonded amount at a lower interest rate the 4.75% to put towards the project. The State controls this very tightly and we have two choices, we can either reallocate it towards another bonded project or we can encumber it and utilize it in the years to come to pay off the principal and interest of the existing bond on Pleasant Street and take advantage of the lower interest rate we received rather than borrow additional money on Plymouth Street at a higher interest rate. Liz Lapham recounted a meeting with an individual from Florida and the suggestion to bury electric lines and has any more thought been given to that. Peter Russell responded that it is too expensive and the area around Plymouth Street was swampland years ago until it was filled. Chris Whitcher asked if there were a no vote on the Article what would it direct the Selectmen to do? Selectman Hughes answered that a no vote would mean that the money would be encumbered to pay off a future bond issue on the Pleasant Street bond when it came due.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chris Whitcher asked if we do not need this money for the Plymouth Street project? Selectman Hughes responded that we need the amount of money requested and it's wiser to use the money we have than to have to go out and borrow it. We do need the money because we have to pay for the Plymouth Street project at one time or another.

Chris Whitcher continued that if the Board has the authorization to borrow 1.8 million dollars and if we're anticipating revenues in the form of a grant for a million dollars that's pushing this project up to 2.8 million dollars and you want to add an additional hundred thousand dollars onto it now the project is rising to 2.9 million dollars. That's not what I passed two years ago, I was looking for a project that was going to cost us 1.8 million dollars. Peter Russell responded, "We're looking at a 2.5 million project in totality and state law does not allow this particular amount \$107,790.50 to increase the appropriation. It has to be used towards the bond payment that is already approved so it doesn't increase the allocation and the expenditure on Plymouth Street. So we're looking at a total amount available now on Plymouth Street of 2.5 million in totality."

Laurie Brothers moved the question.

Voting was done by secret ballot. Article passed YES 135 NO 7

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) to be utilized by the CORE Group and be willing to support the Core Program for a period of three (3) years.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Flanders and Seconded by Selectman Nedeau that the Town adopt Article 20 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Flanders explained that CORE stands for "Community Response". The CORE program was developed based upon the drug and/or alcohol use survey results of Interlakes students. The high degree of substance use was very alarming. The volunteer committee is promoting awareness and supporting substance free events for our youth. This effort is a collaboration of concerned citizens, parents, teachers, administrators and students within Interlakes three communities of Center Harbor, Meredith and Sandwich. One of the reasons the Selectmen put this on as a Warrant article is that we wanted to encourage some discussion to raise the awareness of the community that this program is going forth and also there may be some people out there that aren't aware of dismal results of that substance survey. Karen Sticht stated that she is in favor of this program and anything that can be done. She read in the paper that CORE was actually looking at more money but is this the sum from each of the towns for this year or is this sum to be put in for the next 3 years, from each of the towns.

Selectman Flanders stated that this is the amount for each of 3 years. The CORE group put together a budget that was approximately \$75,000 for a three-year period. The group was looking for a total of about \$10,000 from the three towns in the school district for that three-year period. Meredith has about 70% of the students, so therefore that's how we came up with this number. This would be a number we would be coming back next year for and the third year also. Karen Sticht asked if the other towns had agreed to this and Selectman Flanders said yes.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called the question by a raise of hands. Article 20 passed in the majority.

Moderator Losee then gave the results of Article 19. YES 135 NO 7

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thirty Nine Thousand Dollars (\$139,000) to purchase land owned by F&L Development, LLC being Tax Map U7, Lot 88, located between Route 3 North and Plymouth Street, and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell such parcel in the future if deemed in the best interest of the Town for redevelopment or enhancement of Route 3 North.

Funding is already appropriated with in the operating budget.
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Nedeau and Seconded by Selectman Hughes that the Town adopt Article 21 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Nedeau stated that the purchase of this property would allow for up to 32 additional parking spaces referring to the map in the back of the room of what it might look like. This parcel is one of the few available vacant lots still near downtown. This property could provide a staging area for the Plymouth Street/Route 3 North construction project. The Town has a purchase and sales agreement until after Town Meeting consideration. If the Town decides not to support it we will get our \$1,000 deposit back.

Marie Valliere asked what the traffic flow would be like coming in and off Plymouth Street and what would it do to the traffic flow off Route 3, because it's next to Ludwicks? Selectman Nedeau said hopefully not different from what it is right now but there will be an entrance on Plymouth Street and one on Route 3. Selectman Flanders stated that the design of the parking lot is so that you can't make a straight through passage. Robin Davis asked what is the purpose of an entrance on Plymouth Street? Selectman Hughes responded when we consider that we want it to be used in conjunction with downtown and the new side walk will be on Plymouth Street it will be a lot better walking down Plymouth Street, than Route 3. There was further discussion from Robin Davis and Selectman Hughes concerning the entrance and exit of the parking lot. Ann Sprague asked how we came up with this price for this piece of property. Selectman Nedeau stated that we tried this 2 years ago and was prohibited and a half year ago the price came down and it was at that point that we decided maybe this was the time to go for it.

Steve Merrill asked what is the anticipated cost of improvements to the lot and when do we anticipate appropriating funds for those improvements? Peter Russell stated the estimate that was provided by the Public Works Director is the development cost and would be about \$25,000. It would come from budgetary funds in the future, probably 2 to 3 years from now. This property would be used as a staging area for the reconstruction of Plymouth Street. We tried to purchase the property at a much lower amount but the owners held fast at the \$139,000 and that is the price if we wish to buy it. Cam Davis spoke out about the parking lot, traffic and the noise issue. By putting another parking lot on Plymouth Street, you will increase traffic, and it's going to diminish the quality of life for those who do live there. There is a need for parking but there is also a need for regulating the parking that we already have. I am asking you to consider changing the configuration of that parking lot to consider the quality of life for the people on Plymouth Street. Mark Flanders asked how much per parking space, is it about \$5,100? Mr. Russell stated that was in the ballpark because what you do is look at the land and the Selectmen felt that this was a reasonable cost per parking space.

Mark Flanders asked about the possibility of using the Harty land for additional parking and Mr. Russell stated that it is a fairly small piece and it is a long way from downtown. Chris Kelly stated that we do need to look to the future as Meredith continues to grow. Has anyone looked at the old Lumber Town property for further parking and also for the potential of a community center?

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Peter Russell stated that he was part of the community center group about 10 years ago. After having an architectural review of the property, we were advised not to buy the property because the building would have to be torn down, so the decision at that time was not to pursue the property. It is adjacent to Prescott Park but you do have Hawkins Brook that runs between the two and the elevation change from the Park to the property is about 30 feet. Marie Valliere asked if we do appropriate the funds tonight, how long before we develop it as a parking lot? Peter responded, about 2 years.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called the question. Article 21 passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) as pledged in support of the Meredith Main Street Program.

(Request for article petitioned by 25 or more legal voters.)
Funding is already appropriated with in the operating budget
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Flanders that the Town adopt Article 23 as proposed and read.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes addressed the Article: "The Board of Selectmen are supportive of our Main Street Program. Downtown is more alive now and with fewer vacancies then it had a few years ago. A number of communities are still attempting to participate in the New Hampshire Main Street Program. We were successful for inclusion in 1997. This program offers non-governmental assistance to businesses or property owners. There is a display in the lobby that shows many of the improvements that have been made and I wish you would support the article." Steve Gregoire, the incoming board chairman of the Main Street Program, gave a brief over view of what the program was all about. No further discussion. Moderator Losee called for a vote. Article 22 passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Million Eight Hundred Twenty Nine Thousand One Hundred Fifty Nine Dollars (\$9,829,159) for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Hughes moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Million Nine Hundred and Sixty One Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$9,961,659) for the necessary expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget. This will include the Hundred and Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$130,000) and the Twenty Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) that were passed as separate Warrant Articles. Selectman Nedeau Seconded the Motion.

Discussion: Chris Whitcher asked if the budget as it is being presented, is the amount of money to be raised by taxation the same number as on page 88 of the Town Report? Selectman Hughes stated that the number would be increased by \$2,500. Chris continued asking if any one has an idea how much our property has increased in valuation over last year. Selectman Hughes answered that at this time we cannot give you an answer to that. We have several requests for abatements based on last year's taxes and assessments that could affect the increase or decrease.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September when we have to take our work sheets to the Department of Revenue for administration, we take the amount of money that we have expected to receive as income and subtract it from the amount of money that has been appropriated and the net balance is what is to be raised by taxes. Chris Witcher continued asking questions about the raising of taxes and Selectman Hughes, to the best of his ability, answered them.

No further discussion. Moderator Losee called for the vote. Article 23 passed in the Majority.

Moderator Losee asked if there was any further business to come before the meeting?

Selectman Hughes spoke on the many openings on the volunteer boards as of the 1st of April and applications are available at Town Hall. Mr. Hughes spoke further about Steve Nedeau stating that Steve did not run for re-election but will be running for re-election for the State Legislature. Selectman Hughes presented Steve with a small token of recognition for this term of service.

Robert Stinson director of the Interlakes Community Auditorium made a motion to change the name of the Interlakes Community Auditorium to the Interlakes Center For Performing Arts. He further stated that the Superintendent of Schools said that he needs the approval from the community to change the name. Moderator Losee stated that we're not going to be able to do that at this meeting but he will ask the appropriate people to see if it can be done before next years Town Meeting.

Liz Lapham spoke out about the Meredith Flag Project. She does have enough in the fund now and flags will be flying before Memorial Day. The cost for purchasing the bracket, pole and the flag is \$46.00. Any one wishing to contribute to the fund can send it to Meredith Flag Project in care of the Town Hall.

Moderator Losee then closed Town Meeting 2002 at 9:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Pauline L. Jones, Town Clerk

Assessing

Lena Watson-Bolton, Assessor
Menta Martel, Assessing Clerk

Understanding Your Assessment

Buyers and sellers in the market place *create value*. The assessor's office studies the market and collects information about properties in order to *estimate value*.

WHAT CAUSES PROPERTY VALUES TO CHANGE?

A property's value can change for many reasons. The most obvious is that the property changes. Such as remodeling, adding a garage, deck, shed or addition.

The most frequent cause of a change in value is a change in the market. A shortage of houses in a desirable neighborhood can cause prices to increase. In a recession, larger homes may stay on the market for a long time, but more affordable homes are in demand, so their prices rise. In a stable neighborhood, with no pressure from the market, inflation may increase property values.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ASSESSMENT IS CORRECT?

Review the facts on your property record card. Check the lot size, the living area of your home, the number of bedrooms, number of bathrooms, the type of heating system, the presence or absence of finished basement, garage, deck, fireplace, and the overall condition. Make sure all the information is correct.

Review the property record card and compare the features of similar properties in your neighborhood or a similar neighborhood(s). In addition, become familiar with what properties are selling for and how they compare to your property.

THE APPEAL PROCESS

There is an appeal process available to any property owner who believes the assessment of their property is in error. The error can be either:

- 1) The physical data is incorrect
- 2) The market value, supported by comparable sales
- 3) The assessment exceeds the general level of assessment shown by comparing the property's assessment with assessments on other properties in town.

The first level of appeal is to the local board of selectmen. The request for abatement must be made in writing by March 1st following notice of tax. Abatement applications are available at the town hall.

If local board neglect, or refuse to satisfactorily abate the tax, the second level of appeal is either to the Board of Tax and Land Appeals in Concord or to the Belknap County Superior Court. Appeal must be filed on or before September 1, however, you should verify this date with BTLA and Belknap County Superior Court.

Meredith Conservation Commission

Philip Mercer, Chairman

Your Conservation Commission had the busiest year in memory. We held over 30 public meetings, literally hundreds of committee meetings regarding Hamlin Trails, checking bounds of Town forest and easement properties, dredge & fill applications, grant writing for L-chip, LWCS, Farm land protection, and others coming up in the ensuing year.

In July, the commission signed a purchase and sales agreement with Frances Eames Trust to purchase 188 acres of land on Tucker Mountain Road. The land shares a common property line with Hamlin Town Forest. This purchase is contingent upon receiving grants and gifts to purchase the property next year. These 2 properties will total over 500 acres of wildlife area preserved for present and future generations to enjoy.

In December, we reached an agreement to purchase a conservation easement with John Hodsdon, owner of Long Ridge Farm containing 125 acres on Route 3. In early 2003, we will be holding a public hearing on executing a 2-year option to contingent upon receiving grants and gifts to fund this purchase.

We will have much more to write about next year. I thank all the commission members for the hard work and countless hours they have given to the Town of Meredith and for the total cooperation of all the town hall personnel.

Conservation Committee Members:

John Sherman, Vice Chairman, Robert LeCount, Jacquie Colburn, Peter Miller, Pauli Novicki

Alternates: William Nunamacker, John Robinson, Jeannie Cooperman

Finance

Brenda Vittner, Finance/General Assistance Director

Carrie Compton, Town Accountant

Linda LaBraney, Finance/General Assistance Officer

Gail Brace, Finance/Municipal Office Clerk

The Finance Department handles a large amount of work during the year. In 2002, we converted to hand-held readers at the Water Department, which has enabled this department to have more timely data for the billing cycles. As the Town has continued to grow, the resources needed from the Finance Department changes. This department works with the public on a daily basis and we continue to develop strong public relations skills.

Meredith is a donor community and as such the responsibility of monitoring changes in legislation is imperative. We need to be diligent in managing our resources and meeting the ever-changing political climate in Concord. Meredith remains part of the coalition searching for a solution to the Education Funding issue.

The members of this department form a well-run team. Linda LaBraney's dedication and drive creates our Town Report. The Town of Meredith's "Town Report" was awarded 1st place at the New Hampshire Municipal Conference during 2002. Carrie Compton works to maintain a professional relationship with other town departments while assisting the public with questions. Gail Brace works with the citizens of Meredith as well as business professionals to give accurate and timely information. Each member fills an important role in the success of the Finance Department.

Fire Department

Charles G. Palm, Fire Chief

Reflecting back over 2002, many significant goals were achieved within the Meredith Fire Department, many of which are reflective of the changing demands of the community that we serve together with the ever-increasing complexity of the situations being encountered by the department. A high priority has been the providing of department equipment that will both assist in improving the safety of our volunteer members and in performing the services necessitated by our growing and changing community. Some examples include: turnout gear (coats and bunker pants that meet today's standards for heat and liquid splash protection); breathing apparatus – through a government grant we now have a high pressure breathing air compressor and refill stations to quickly provide purified breathing air for our firefighters; improved individual air packs that are both lighter and easier to use as well as providing a safety alert for a fire fighter should he/she becomes trapped and unable to move; through another grant, both of our stations have reliable back up power capabilities so that we can still function in the event of a power loss – these systems proved their effectiveness this past summer when much of the Town lost power for a period of time and we were able to keep our radios and other equipment functioning without a problem; our new pumper/rescue truck placed in service two years ago has continued to be very effective especially at motor vehicle accidents where we have had to set up scene lighting and utilize the Jaws-of-Life quickly to free trapped victims.

As discussed in last year's Town report, our department "Teams" which includes our 40 plus member department, the auxiliary and our explorer post are all functioning extremely well. With respect to the fire department we responded to a record number of calls this past year, as discussed on the following page. Our average number of firefighters per call has increased from slightly over 11 members per call to over 12 per call during 2002. The auxiliary has been there when the need has arisen, providing a variety of support services to our department members when we have been pressed into service for extended periods of time. Our department in conjunction with our neighboring towns of Moultonboro, Center Harbor and Sandwich sponsors the explorer post. Membership is available to young adults from the ages of 14 to 18 and provides a great opportunity to participate in the emergency services field, with several of its members now having gone on to seek advanced degrees in fire sciences, emergency medical services. Also, upon turning 18 years old, several members have joined their respective departments. This year we were delighted to have one of our local post members be selected as the explorer of the year while attending summer training at the New Hampshire Fire Academy.

Another important happening this year was the implementation of the nationally recognized "Risk Watch" program, which is a child injury prevention program, developed by the National Fire Protection Association. A big "Thank You" goes out to the administration and teachers at the Inter Lakes Elementary School, Stewarts Ambulance Service, the recreation and police departments and several members of our own department. During the year, our Risk Watch team has met with the first grade students and presented various program segments including burns prevention, poison prevention, fire arms safety, water safety and other segments directed toward making these children aware of how to reduce the risk of becoming injured.

Fire Department continued

Call volume for 2002, increased to 299 calls, and is representative of the increase in both the number of residents and visitors to our community. The following table depicts the composition of our calls and reflects the relative consistency in the make up of our calls:

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Fire Related (structure, vehicle and brush)	10.7%	13.8%	9.5%	8.4%
Mutual Aid (assisting neighboring towns)	14.1	14.9	18.6	16.3
Rescue (motor vehicle accidents, medical)	30.1	32.6	30.6	30.4
Public Assist (alarm activations, etc.)	45.1	38.7	41.3	44.9
	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Total number of calls	<u>299</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>276</u>

“Fire Related” activity includes responses for all types of fires. Fortunately, most of these were relatively minor in terms of property loss. As one would probably anticipate, most of these fires were the result of the lack of proper maintenance such as not cleaning a chimney or not having a vehicle serviced properly, resulting in fuel or oil leaks as opposed to some type of actual equipment failure. Whereas with building or structure fires, we have seen several instances where appliances such as dishwashers, clothes washers and dryers having been the culprit. A good suggestion would be not to load up the dishwasher or other appliance and leave the house to go to work or shopping. Rather, start them up upon returning so in the event of a malfunction, you would more likely be aware of a problem and take timely action.

“Mutual Aid” calls are those where a surrounding community had an emergency situation and due to the need for either additional equipment and/or manpower, requested the assistance of our Department. As a participant in the Lakes Region Fire Mutual Aid, we periodically are called upon to help our neighboring towns, as they in turn are called upon to help us in our time of need.

“Rescue Calls” continues to be the one area that we have experienced almost consistent annual increases. Included in this category are motor vehicle accidents, which account for nearly two-thirds of these calls. Unfortunately, upon investigation, many such accidents are caused by a lack of attention to the driving function, such as reaching down to pick up that CD that just fell on the floor or trying to dial a number on a cell phone.

In the last category, “Public Assist”, the majority of these calls relate to some type of alarm activation, such as fire or carbon monoxide. Fortunately, most of the alarm activations ultimately resulted in neither property damage nor personal injury and were most often accidental, caused by burned food, or steam from a shower for example. However, on a number of occasions we have found the alarm activation was caused by lack of proper maintenance. This lack of maintenance not only results in false alarms, it also results in alarm systems not activating. Those instances, unfortunately, are the ones you read about where personal injury or death has resulted. So if you have an alarm system - even just a couple of smoke detectors - test them, replace the batteries, do your best to make sure they will work when you need them.

In closing, the members of the department team would like to thank all of the citizens of the Town of Meredith for their support. Please have a safe and healthy 2003.

Forest Fire Warden

Charles G. Palm, Fire Chief

For most of the past summer, we found ourselves in a situation, due to dry conditions, where outdoor burning was prohibited, except in those limited situations as permitted by the State of New Hampshire Forestry Service. Two Smokey Bear signs were installed several years ago. By using these signs, you can generally determine if you need to have a permit and/or whether you can burn safely. Generally, when Smokey is displaying a “Very High” or “Extreme”, it can be concluded that outdoor burning is being restricted. Next spring, when the snow begins to leave us in Meredith, keep an eye on Smokey and as soon as he displays signs indicating the estimated fire danger level, it is then necessary to obtain a permit to do **ANY** form of outdoor burning.

Perhaps the most frequently asked question is: **“Do I need a permit to burn?”** State law requires that anyone who kindles a fire out of doors needs to hold a valid permit, unless there is adequate snow cover. It is very easy to obtain a permit— you need to be the landowner (or have written permission of the landowner) and you must be at least 18 years of age. A permit can be obtained, at no cost, through the downtown fire station, the Town Office, Y-Landing Marina, or the Meredith Center Store during their normal business hours. Also be prepared to show a photo ID, such as a driver’s license. Permits are good for up to three days, starting with the day of issue. Seasonal permits for certain types of fires are also available. Violators of the permit requirement are subject to fines by the State in the amount of up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail. It should be kept in mind, even with a valid permit, under State law, any damage caused as a result of a kindled fire becomes the obligation of the party responsible for kindling the fire, including the **cost of suppression**.

A new law effective January 1, 2003 **PROHIBITS** residential trash burning. What this means is that no longer will we be able to issue “Incinerator” permits, which in the past were the primary method used for “residential trash burning”. The local permit issuers will still issue a permit (usually on a seasonal basis) for a “Burn Barrel”; however, this burn barrel permit is being used by the land owner to more safely burn natural debris, such as twigs and small branches. A complaint follow-up resulting in discovering that a burn barrel being used for trash burning will result in the voiding of the permit and may be subject to Department of Environmental Services involvement. The regulation dealing with residential trash burning is not a Division of Forestry issue but one that DES is mandating. Specific questions or concerns regarding this matter should be followed up with DES at 800-498-6868 or “www.des.state.nh.us”.

Fortunately, even with all of the dry weather this past summer, we in Meredith experienced a very limited number of outside fire problems, which is a result of our citizens being informed and aware of safe burning issues. In addition many “Violations” were issued and in rare cases bills for suppression were also issued. The local deputy wardens and I appreciate everyone’s awareness and express our appreciation in helping us do our job.

Remember Smokey the Bear’s slogan – ***“Only you can prevent forest fires”***.

General Assistance Department

Brenda L. Vittner, Finance/General Assistance Director

Linda J. LaBraney, Finance/General Assistance Officer

In 2002 the Town assisted over fifty clients living in the Town of Meredith. Typically, assistance is granted for rent, heat, electricity, food and other necessities of life. New Hampshire law (RSA 165) requires each town to have a local general assistance program to help people who are financially in need of assistance.

If you or someone you know are in need of assistance, please contact our office at 279-4538. If you are interested in receiving information on: debt crisis, tenant rights, eviction process, divorce/separation, security deposits, domestic violence, custody rights and/or child support call 1-800-639-5290 or go online at www.larcnh.org. We are here to help.

We would like to send a special thank you to the Center Harbor Care Givers who provided transportation daily to one of our residents that was battling cancer. We would also like to thank the local Churches, local Businesses, Service Organizations, Community Action Program and residents who have joined the town in assisting people in need.

Meredith Public Library

Lydia M. Torr, Library Director

Marilyn E. Rushton, Assistant Director

Our first children's event held in January 2002 was a huge success thanks to children's librarian Linda Morgan who initiated "First Grade Night" for all new six-year-old cardholders. At the celebration for students and families, Mrs. Morgan emphasized, "The library card was the most important card they would receive in their lives!"

Cynthia Lowman and Lois Morris were hired to replace Jacqueline Smith and Melody Gaudette respectively. Jackie and Melody left to pursue other career opportunities. We thank them both for their dedication and service while at the Library.

A record number of patrons and attendees at programs held at the Library is positive feedback of our continued success to serve the needs of Meredith taxpayers. It is very exciting in this age of automation to be continually in demand for high performance levels of service for hard copy information. We constantly strive as a team to offer all types of quality multifaceted materials for all ages. Our outreach to Nursing Homes, Schools, the Community Senior Center, and Day Care Centers enables us to focus on the needs of a broader based population that, for various reasons, are unable to come to the Library.

Annual Circulation

Audio Visual Materials	22,191
Books	65,984
Periodicals	2,351
Costumes	570
Interlibrary Loans	1,695
Reference Questions Answered	1,743
Registered Borrowers	6,264

Total Circulation 92,791

Acquisitions

Audio Visuals	530
Books	2,695
Gifts	239
Lost/Discarded	3,114

Total Inventory 33,780

Planning & Code Administration

John C. Edgar, AICP, Town Planner

William M. Edney, Code Administrator

Mary Lee Harvey, Secretary

Planning Board Application Summary – 2002

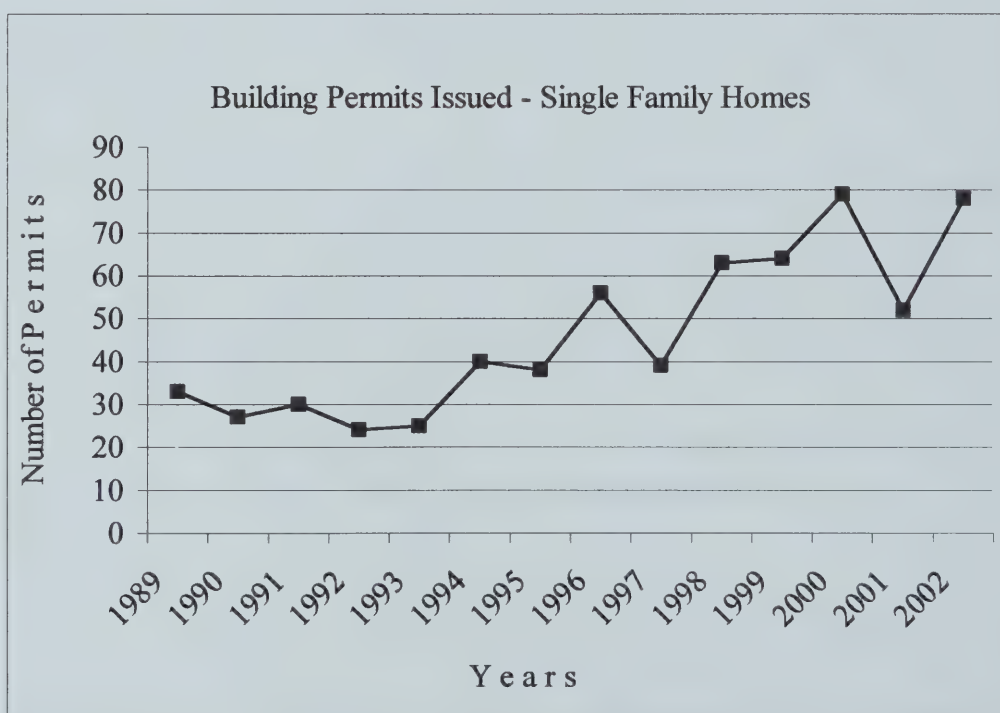
Comm./Indus. Site Plan Approvals	18	Pre-Application Consultations	8
Home Occupation Site Plan Approvals	0	Scenic Road Tree Cutting Approvals	0
Subdivision Approvals	4	Architectural Design Reviews	8
Boundary Line Adjustment Approvals	10	Revocation and/or Disapproval	0

Zoning Board Summary – 2002

Variance Applications	21	Special Exceptions Granted	34
Variances Granted	16	Special Exceptions Denied	1
Variances Denied	5	Rehearing Requests Granted	0
Applications Withdrawn	3	Rehearing Requests Denied	0
Special Exception Applications	35	Administrative Decisions Denied	2

Building Permit Activity – 2002

New Single-Family Homes	78	Garages/Storage Buildings	57
Mobile Homes	4	Renovations & Repairs	164
Demolition	7	Driveways	23
Fences	6	Docks/Dock Repairs	24
Swimming Pools	3	Other Structures/Renovations	38
Electrical	102	Plumbing/Burner	84



Planning & Code Administration continued

“Communities respond to change in various ways. Some prefer to avoid change altogether, taking steps to isolate themselves from anything that may change the status quo. Others find themselves surprised by change, confronted with problems that could have been anticipated. Meredith recognizes that social and economic forces continually influence our community, and that our individual and collective interests are best served through understanding, preparedness, participation and planning.”

2002 Community Plan, p. 1

In November of 2002, the Planning Board adopted the 2002 Community Plan. Community planning is the single most important function of the Planning Board as it serves to guide growth and community development for years to come. The 2002 Community Plan is the result of a volunteer driven planning process incorporating countless hours of citizen input (The volunteers who served on the various committees are listed on page 54). Also this fall, the Planning Board adopted the 2003-2008 Capital Improvements Program (CIP). The CIP is a planning tool that identifies needed capital improvements projected over a six-year period. Copies of either the 2002 Community Plan or the 2003-2008 Capital Improvements Program can be obtained simply by contacting the Planning Department at 279-4538.

The Planning Board is also responsible for the review of subdivisions and non-residential development proposals. Several significant projects received approvals in 2002 including:

- The Wilds of New England (Christian youth camp)
- St. Charles Church
- Church Landing (68-room hotel, restaurant and conference center)
- Meredith Bay Village (70-unit retirement community)
- Meredith-Harley Davidson
- Forestview Manor (20-room assisted living)

There are several other projects that are in the preliminary stages that will ensure another busy year in 2003.

Our community continues to be a desirable place to live, work and invest. Consequently, we are the focus of considerable commercial and residential building activity as indicated in the statistical summary for 2002. The Planning and Code Administration Department continues to work closely with applicants, other municipal departments and our volunteer boards and commissions to provide the best possible service and assistance we can. In 2003, we hope to complete the reorganization of our property record systems and improve our base mapping capabilities in an effort to improve access to information.

Citizens who choose to serve on boards and committees form the nucleus of our community planning efforts. We are all indebted to these individuals who quietly carry out their responsibilities with diligence and a commitment to Meredith's future. Thank you. If you are interested in learning more about community planning, volunteer opportunities or have any specific development-related questions, please feel free to contact us or stop by the Planning and Code Administration Department in Town Hall.

Police Department

John P. Curran, Chief of Police

As I reflect over the last 23 years as your Police Chief, I must begin my annual report with a sincere thanks to everyone who assists the Police Department in making and keeping it a professional law enforcement agency. We have a Board of Selectmen and a Town Manager who work with us and the community to make the Town of Meredith the popular and beautiful attraction that it is.

I would be remiss if I did not give thanks to all of the members of the Meredith Police Department, both sworn and civilian alike. Without teamwork, any agency would bog itself down in bureaucracy and paperwork. That does not happen here. All of our employees strive hard to provide the myriad of services expected of this type of agency. Community policing is a philosophy, not a set of rules cast in stone. All of our employees have a service-oriented attitude and bring credit to the department.

In summation, it must be noted that the Meredith Police Department enjoys an enviable reputation throughout the State of New Hampshire, and in some instances much further away, due to the significant number of seasonal visitors we deal with. Our most important asset is our citizens who make it all possible with their tremendous support. We thank you for this trust and support, and pledge to you to work hard to continue to deserve your trust.

Statistics

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Calls for Service	29,380	29,754	34,427
Warnings/Checkups	3,386	3,037	2,466
Summonses	366	332	279
Arrests	416	483	496

Animal Control

The Police Department is charged with the enforcement of the animal control laws. This can be a timely and costly drain on our resources. It is important to the community that all of us keep current with all of the rules and regulations regarding licensing and medical needs of our pets.

I would like to thank you all in advance for your continued support in caring for our pets. The statistics of our animal control calls for the last two years follows this report.

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Dogs Licensed	1180	1193
Dog Complaints	400	339
Cat Complaints	63	121
Reported Bites	22	18
Fish & Game Calls	90	90
Farm/Domestic	26	32

Public Works Departments

Mike Faller, Public Works Director
Bruce Mac Brien, Assistant Director
Monica Bennett, Secretary

The Highway Department was kept busy with the maintenance of all town roads as well as a couple major road projects this past year. With grant money from FEMA we were able to raise and pave Weed Road to the end, and with funds from a second grant from NH-DES we were able to add gravel and pave approximately 2,000 ft of Batchelder Hill Road and Black Brook Road as well as the intersection with Eagle Ledge Road, and replaced drainage on these roads to stop silt runoff into Lake Winnisquam. Overlays were done on Leavitt Park Road, Pinnacle Park Road, Upper New Hampton Road, Blake Road, Mercier Drive, Lower Ladd Hill, Douglas, Wotonda, Old Barn and Cummings Cove Roads. Various other town roads were graded and ditched, brush was cut back and roadsides were mowed. Through a third grant received from the Lake Winnepesaukee Association, a new Stormwater Infiltration Drain was installed at the Boat Launch at Hesky Park. Campground and Potting Bench Roads were rebuilt and ledge was blasted on Camp Waldron and Chemung Roads. In conjunction with the Water and Sewer Department, Plymouth Street was totally rebuilt.

The Buildings and Grounds Department did an excellent job of keeping our sidewalks and buildings free of snow and ice last winter. In addition to their regular maintenance and repair duties, mowing and weed whacking and daily pickup of garbage at all town grounds, beaches and buildings, the crew brought Ball Field #3 at Prescott Park up to current specs. The Pa Smith building at Prescott Park received a spruce up and complete painting, and the Waukegan Highlands Park trails were trimmed and cleaned out. Six new tennis courts and two more fields were added at Prescott Park. Unfortunately, vandalism was extremely high around town this past year and kept the crews busy doing repairs.

The Solid Waste Department has issued approximately 3,600 Solid Waste Permits to residents of Meredith and Center Harbor to use the facility on a year-round basis. Adding in the seasonal and commercial users, we had a very busy year keeping up with all the recycling, baling, sorting and shipping of trash. We are a mandatory recycling facility and our Recycling Store continues to be a popular way for residents to re-use good, serviceable items (everything from books to furniture) rather than throwing them away. This year the old landfill was finally capped and covered with loam and we should see nice green rolling hills behind the transfer facility this coming spring.

The Cemetery Department: During 2002 the new water lines were completed and put into operation, the entire cemetery was limed and will be fertilized in the spring of 2003 with the hope of improving lawn conditions in the wake of the severe 2002 drought. Thirteen new trees were planted, six of them donated as memorial plantings by families. The new section of the Village Cemetery was opened with 50 new two-grave lots. Scores of old, tipped monuments within Sections 6 and 1908 were straightened and repaired. The cemetery's computer database was updated with all information and epitaphs on all the monuments within Sections One, Two, and Six of the Village Cemetery and all known burials within the Town of Meredith (including Oakland and the other 88 outlying farm and family cemeteries in Meredith). The Meredith Cemetery Crew cleaned and repaired the Towle (Keyser Road) and Marston (Meredith Center Road) Family Cemeteries. Boy Scouts from Troop 143, under the supervision of the Meredith Sexton, completely cleaned, repaired and erected a name plaque for the Old First Baptist Church Cemetery off True Road for an Eagle Scout Project.

As Director of Public Works and on behalf of all of the Public Works Departments employees, I would like to thank the people of Meredith for their continuing support and cooperation.

Recreation Department

Vint M. Choiniere, Recreation Director, CPRP

I would like to thank the many volunteers and sponsors who contributed so much to the success of our programs and activities in 2002. I would also like to thank town and school officials, members of the Public Works Department, Buildings and Grounds, Fire, Police, and Water Department for their continued support of our activities and facility maintenance. Their spirit of cooperation is very much appreciated and vital to the delivery of recreational opportunities to our community. A thank you also goes out to St. Charles Church, Mr. Lee Huckins of the Grange, and Anna Swanson of the Laconia Athletic and Swim Club for the use of their facilities and services throughout the year.

The addition of new recreation facilities along with improvements made to existing facilities in 2002 greatly enhanced and increased the availability of recreational opportunities for the residents of Meredith. Thanks to the efforts of the Prescott Park Planning Committee, six new tennis courts were opened in the spring of 2002. A new athletic field complex featuring a new baseball field, soccer field, and multi-purpose field was completed in 2002, and is scheduled to open for use in the fall of 2003.

The skate park, opened in the fall of 2001, received generous financial support from the Glenn Hart Memorial Fund and a private donation from Mr. Bill Andrews. These, along with other contributions, allowed for the addition of several new elements to the park. Plans are underway to complete the skate park in the spring of 2003. The addition of the skate park has received tremendous support from the community and its participants, who turned out in large numbers in 2002.

Another very exciting development in 2002 was the reconstitution of the Community Center Search Committee. Twelve members were appointed to the committee in March of 2002, and its members have been working diligently throughout the planning process to make an informed final recommendation that will reflect the community's wishes for the design and location of the proposed community center at the 2004 town meeting.

Activities and programs offered in 2002 included Senior Adult Exercise, Flower Arranging, Youth Gym and Fitness, Indoor Rock Climbing, North Pole Calling, Snow Tubing, Ice Skating Lessons, Coed-T-Ball, Mini-Sports, Greetings From The Easter Bunny, American Red Cross Babysitting Course, Horseback Riding Lessons, Coed Youth Soccer, Family Hikes, Summer Playground Program, Tennis Lessons, Archery Lessons, Swim Team, Swim Lessons, Summer Concert Series, Bob Nixon Magic Show, Marcus Gale's Children Concert, KidPop Children's Concert, Green Thumb Fun, and The Balloon Zoo.

Planned Special Events included Family Skating Party, Tree Lighting Ceremony, Easter Egg Hunt, Fun In The Sun Day, Family Fun Night, Lot Dance, Street Dance, Water Carnival, Fall Family Fun Fest, and the New England Shakespeare Festival.

Planned trips included Snow Tubing, Boston Pops Holiday Concert, Swim & Skate, Moose Tour, Boston Red Sox Game, Boston Duck Tour, and Skate Park Trips to Londonderry, Litchfield, Rye, Nashua, and Loon Mountain.

We are very proud of our Recreation Staff members who are all professionals in their field. They take great pride in offering interesting and enjoyable opportunities, in a safe and supportive environment.

As always I encourage you to get involved by sharing your thoughts and ideas with us and I look forward to working together as a community to provide quality recreational opportunities for all to enjoy now and into the future. Have a safe and healthy year in 2003.

Recreation Department continued...

Skating Lessons
Prescott Park
Winter 2002



Annual Easter Egg Hunt
Swasey Park
Spring 2002

Family Archery Program
Child's Park
Summer 2002



GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Town Clerk Department

Pauline L. Jones, Town Clerk

Sheila M. Vachon, Deputy Town Clerk

It doesn't seem possible another year has come and gone. There are many events which, have taken place over the course of the year that have had a great impact on our lives and in some ways have changed us forever.

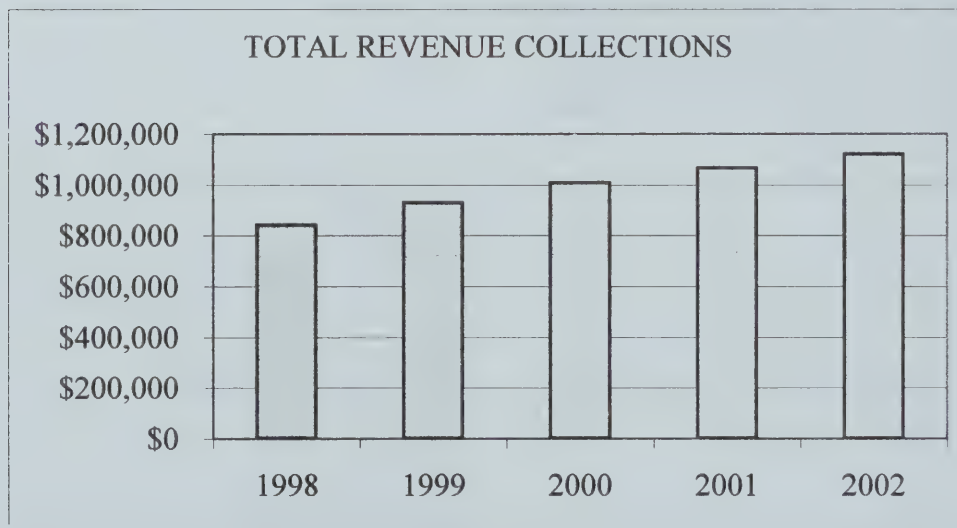
Our department has been very busy this year attending classes and seminars, as needed, to stay current with the ever changing State rules and regulations. We do our very best to stay updated on all the laws allowing us to assist our residents in a capable and efficient manner in any transactions they may have.

Paula plays a vital roll in the legislative portion of the laws that govern our department by serving as a member of the New Hampshire City and Town Clerks Association and Legislative Committee.

Sheila has completed her second year of the three-year Certification Program. Some of the courses covered in this program are Public Speaking, Record Retention, Public Relations, Vital Records, Title, Registration and Voting Procedures.

The 2002 Town Clerk Department Collections were as follows:

Auto Registrations (9982)	1,068,350.00
Dogs (1196)	8,919.00
Miscellaneous:	<u>43,801.69</u>
(Includes): UCC Filings, Marriage Licenses, Vital Records Copies, Aquatherm Permits, Dredge & Fill Permits, Mailings, and Notary/Justice Fees.	
TOTAL REVENUE COLLECTED	\$1,121,070.69



We greatly appreciate your continued support and we are always willing to help if it is within our capacity to do so.

Water and Sewer Departments

Robert Hill, Superintendent

Staff: Daniel Cutting, Chuck Wade and Lee Bavis

Once again, another year has passed by with substantial improvements to the water and sewer departments. As always we strive to serve you with the highest level of quality possible. The water department has again passed all EPA/State water quality requirements, as well as, being chosen to participate in a national water quality pilot testing program.

The Plymouth Street/ Route 3 North water and sewer project finally got under way this year and is expected to finish in 2003. This has been an extensive and difficult project, and we thank you for your patience. The final project will have been worth the inconvenience. Larger water mains are being laid to provide not only higher quality water, but to improve water pressures and fire fighting capabilities. The sewer collection main is being extended from Circle Drive to the Meredith/Center Harbor Town Line, remedying any possible ground water contamination from septic systems that may fail in the area. The main sewer pumping station was also upgraded under this project, replacing the antique 1958 electrical system with state of the art electronics.

We are continuing the water meter upgrade program throughout the town to provide quick and accurate billings. Please contact us to schedule an appointment to change your meter out, or be patient, we will get to you eventually.

Vutek Incorporated paid for the installation of a fire pump in the booster station on Ladd Hill. This provides fire-fighting flows on Cataldo Road, and Route 104 with 1500 gallons a minute capacity.

We are expecting 2003 to be even busier with numerous new constructions that will require new water and sewer extensions throughout the town. The developers, at no cost to the town, will pay for these extensions.

Again I would like to thank Public Works, the Police Department, and the Town Hall for assisting us when necessary. Their staff and cooperation in assisting us is well appreciated.

As always, thank you for allowing us to serve you and for your support.

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

American Legion Griggs/Wyatt Post 33

Bob Kennelly, Commander

Tim Morrill, Vice Commander

Bob Wallace, Second Vice Commander

Herb Vadney, Treasurer

Haywood Price, Sgt-At-Arms

Peter Fischer, Historian

Ben Wyatt, Chaplin

Joe Nardone, Adjutant

The Post on Plymouth Street for some 80 years is the most consistent part of Meredith history. As a Post we have a canteen open to Legion members (about 250), Women's Auxiliary members (about 125), S.A.L. members (about 55) and their guests. The canteen is open 7 days a week at different opening hours every day. We try to work with the youth of the Meredith area through the schools, the Meredith Recreation Department and the Santa Fund.

The year ahead looks to the following dates for our activities:

The Fishing Derby in February

Memorial Day

The Fourth of July

Meredith Home Day and Fine Arts & Crafts Festival in August

New Years Eve & Day

2nd Annual 9/11 Tribute

3rd Annual Golf Tournament in September

Veterans Day

Thanksgiving

Christmas

We are trying very hard to get the area residents interested in all these dates and activities. Please check in the Meredith News and at the post for dates and times. We are committed to putting veterans and the community of Meredith first. Please come and help us accomplish this. Our meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month, except July and August, at 7PM at the post.

American Red Cross

Susanne M. Weldon-Francke, Chairman

The American Red Cross, Greater White Mountain Chapter provides programs and services to help individuals prepare for, prevent and respond to emergencies and disasters. The Greater White Mountain Chapter covers a 3,000 square mile area from Gilmanton to the Canadian border. Red Cross has four major program areas; emergency disaster services, health and safety services, armed forces emergency services and biomedical/blood services.

Emergency Disaster Services provide relief for replacement of basic human needs, food, clothing, shelter, medicine and mental health counseling after a fire, flood, major snow/ice storm, hurricane, and other natural or man-made disaster or terrorist attack.

Health and Safety programs educate communities in CPR, oxygen, administration, instructor training, sports safety, emergency response, water safety, first aid, emergency response, babysitting, automated external defibrillation and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Armed Forces Emergency Services communicates emergency messages from family members to military personnel. The American Red Cross serves as the intermediary between families and the US military case management system.

Biomedical/Blood Services provide many blood products to area hospitals in the community and across the state.

Last fiscal year, the Greater White Mountain Chapter provided assistance to three families in the Town of Meredith. The families were victims of a home fire, a mobile home fire and an electrical fire. Red Cross provided food, lodging and warm clothing for the victims. One hundred twenty people in the Town of Meredith received training in babysitting, water safety, learn to swim, CPR and first aid. The Red Cross also provided emergency communication to two military families in the Town of Meredith.

Child and Family Services

George R. Samuels, Director of Family Counseling

Child and Family Service appreciate the continuing support that we have received services from the Town of Meredith. Child and Family Services is New Hampshire's oldest, non-sectarian, charitable social service organization. We have been serving New Hampshire's children and families for since 1850.

Your support has helped us to provide 328 hours of service to 34 Meredith residents during the past year. The services provided included Family and Children's counseling, supervised visitation, child abuse prevention and teen services. Other CFS services available to Meredith residents include Camp Spaulding, a residential camp for low-income children and an adolescent group home.

The Lakes Region office is located at 95 Water Street in Laconia. The Lakes Region Board, which helps guide local programming, includes representatives from Meredith and other Lakes Region towns.

Community Health and Hospice, Inc.

Margaret Franckhauser, ARNP, MS, MPH, Executive Director

Once again Community Health & Hospice, Inc. was honored to serve Meredith residents with home and support services to complement the *Meredith Public Health Nursing Association*. Community Health & Hospice offers services from birth to bereavement through the hospice, community support and young family programs. During fiscal year 2002, CH&H made over 2000 visits to Meredith residents offering services to improve health & wellness and to allow the elderly to stay in their homes as they age.

Financial support from the Town of Meredith is used to assist in funding:

- Homemaker and companion services, which provide light chore services and friendly visitors for those who are elderly and infirm.
- Hospice services that are not fully covered under insurance, such as medical equipment, medications, spiritual care and bereavement support to family and friends.
- Parenting education and support for families at risk for child abuse and neglect
- Immunization services for children & teens
- Nursing visits to mothers and newborns within a few days of delivery
- Medical social worker services for those in need of community resource assistance
- Children's and Adult bereavement support groups
- Support for the caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Emergency Management Department

Steve Bennett, Emergency Management Director

In 2002, I revised and rewrote the Town of Meredith Basic Emergency Response Plan and received approval on it from the NH Office of Emergency Management in June.

With this plan updated and approved, the Town qualified for a grant utilizing a planner/coordinator* from the Lakes Region Planning Commission to assist in the development of an all Hazards Mitigation Plan that would help to plan for, identify, and eliminate potential hazards in the community before they become disaster situations. A committee of Town Officials and Town Department Heads was organized to serve on this new committee. A lot of information has already been gathered, and the committee's work is still in progress.

I have made it a point to keep up with my training and have completed six college courses through the Federal Emergency Management College in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The six classes are:

- Awareness Preparation for Animals in Disaster Situations, Part I;
- Introduction to Hazard Mitigation; Emergency Response to Terrorism;
- Community Planning for Animals in Emergency Situations, Part II;
- Special Events Contingency Planning; and Roles of Volunteer Agencies under Emergency Management Situations.

These classes were very informative and will help plan for better programs under our community's future emergency management plans.

My sincerest thanks to all of the Town Officials and Department Heads who have worked with me during this past year to plan for emergency safety for our community, and to all of our citizens for their support.

Inter~Lakes Day Care Center & Nursery School

Connie Pelletier, Executive Director

Inter-Lakes Day Care Center, Inc. is a not-for-profit community agency that has been serving the greater Lakes Region, offering child care services, education, and support for children and families for over 30 years. The Center is open on a year-round basis from 6:30am to 5:30pm for ages 6 weeks through 12 years, making it possible for parents to maintain employment.

The Inter-Lakes Day Care Center and Nursery School's early childhood program provides comprehensive, developmentally appropriate infant, toddler, preschool, and school age extended-day programs within a safe and nurturing environment for the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of young children, while responding to the needs of families by providing morning preschool programs, summer and vacation day camp programs, and USDA approved hot meals and snacks. Other services include: healthcare, special needs support, vision and hearing screening, dental care, transportation for kindergarten, and sponsorship of a group of 26 home daycare providers who serve approved meals and snacks and receive reimbursement from USDA.

Through the State of New Hampshire, under Title XX, sliding fee scale tuition, based on income and family size, is available for purposes of employment, training, academic pursuits, job search, or temporary disability. Supporting families with quality, comprehensive child care leads to strong families raising healthy children. We extend our sincere thanks to the Town of Meredith for its continued support.

Kidworks Learning Center

Deborah Tolman, Director

Kidworks Learning Center is a private, non-profit organization that provides a variety of programs to area children ages 6 weeks to 12 years, including Infant/Toddler, Preschool, Kindergarten, Before and After School, and Summer Enrichment Programs. The center participates in the State of NH Childcare Scholarship program, which provides tuition assistance to families who qualify. With support from the USDA Food Program, we provide breakfast, lunch, and snacks to all children in attendance. We are open year round from 6:30 am to 5:30 pm, and welcome children of all races, color, national origin, sex and ability.

In 2002, Kidworks completed an expansion project, which included the installation of a fire sprinkler system throughout our building, and renovation of an existing space to allow us to accommodate more children. The State of NH Bureau of Childcare Licensing increased our license capacity from 70 to 88 children.

On behalf of the families, staff, and Board of Directors of Kidworks Learning Center, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Town of Meredith for its continued support of our agency.

Laconia Motorcycle Rally & Race Week Assoc.

Charlie St. Clair, Executive Director

The Laconia Motorcycle Week Association is a non-profit promotional organization for Motorcycle Week, the Lakes Region and State of New Hampshire. Throughout each year, we travel to the International Motorcycle Trade Shows, with attendance of over 400,000 people, at the following locations: New York, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Daytona Beach, Baltimore, Denver, and Boston in order to promote this area and the Oldest National Rally, Motorcycle Week. As well as the trade shows, this Association promotes Motorcycle Week, the Lakes Region and the State of New Hampshire through an advertising campaign in trade magazines throughout the United States and Canada. Each year, two editions of the Laconia Rally News are printed and distributed to a direct market around the world. This magazine gives helpful information for first time visitors to the area as well as those who return each year. A motel list is included with various lodging information from Laconia, Meredith, and across the State. The Official Motorcycle Week website www.laconiaMCweek.com averages 300,000 hits per month and offers links to other venues including information on the Town of Meredith.

Appropriated funds received from the Town of Meredith as Board Member dues, allow this Association to have a continued partnership with the town in order to offer the Associations assistance in items to do with the Rally. The successfulness and sustainability of Motorcycle Week is made possible through our sponsors and Board Members such as the Town of Meredith.

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Lakes Region Association

Amy Landers, Executive Director

The Lakes Region Association, a non-profit tourism marketing organization, is the spokesperson for each community to visitors who are interested in vacationing in the region or looking for information about purchasing land or buying a seasonal or retirement home.

The mission of the organization is to be the region's premier tourism marketing organization by promoting the region as a year-round vacation destination to in-state, out-of-state and international visitors. Through our comprehensive marketing plan we promote the region to increase visitor counts and enhance visitor expenditures to the entire region.

Our marketing efforts include the printing and distribution of two major publications (300,000 Where to Guides and 600,000 Lakes Region Map and Guides); Annual National Advertising Campaign that runs throughout the spring in national magazines and newspapers throughout the northeast and Canada; distribution of the Lakes Region Map and Guide in brochure racks from Maine to Washington, DC; a web site that includes extensive information on the region, calendar of events and links to the many communities in the region; promotion of the holiday season through the Yuletide at the Lakes Program; and the operation of two Visitor Information Centers, New Hampton and Alton Bay.

Lakes Region Community Services Council

Richard Crocker, Executive Director

Lakes Region Community Services Council provides support and services to families with children and adults who are developmentally disabled and live in the Meredith area and surrounding communities. Some of the supports we provide to people with disabilities include: helping to find jobs, stay employed, be involved in community events and assist with personal care needs and transportation.

Last year we again used the funding requested to support a recreation position. The recreation coordinator has been working on providing recreational opportunities for individuals in the Meredith area and surrounding towns. She has been collaborating with local associations that already have existing programs and providing assistance to make the programs inclusive for all to participate.

We would like to thank the citizens of Meredith for your on going and future support for making recreation opportunities available for all to participate.

Lakes Region Planning Commission

Kimon Koulet, Executive Director

With a service area covering over 1,200 square miles in Belknap, Carroll, Grafton and Merrimack Counties, the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) provides a wide range of planning services to its members. Our work program is as comprehensive as it is full, with activities ranging from technical assistance, geographic information systems, transportation, land use and environmental planning, to economic development. We are funded from multiple sources including local and state government, as well as special studies. LRPC is contacted many times each week for answers to local concerns. We also continue to maintain a regular dialogue with state agencies that depend on us as a resource for the entire Lakes Region. Our goal is to provide support and leadership to the region, its governments, businesses, and citizens.

Here are some of our services performed on behalf of Meredith and the region in the past fiscal year:

- ❖ Supplied local officials with demographic data from the 2000 Census.
- ❖ Provided town officials with Digital Ortho Quads (aerial photos) to use in rectifying tax maps particularly of shoreline properties.
- ❖ Assisted local planning officials with the preparation of the new Meredith Master Plan.
- ❖ Ordered and delivered to the Meredith Planning Board three copies of the 2001-2002 NH Edition Planning and Land Use Regulation Books at considerable savings.
- ❖ Provided assistance with the development of transportation enhancement and the Land Conservation and Heritage Investment Program applications.
- ❖ Coordinated the 17th annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection, the largest single day, multi-site collection in New Hampshire. Over 2,000 households from twenty-seven communities brought approximately 22,000 gallons of household hazardous waste products to the collection for removal.
- ❖ Performed over 160 traffic counts and several road inventories around the region, as the result of the annual work program with the NH Department of Transportation.
- ❖ Co-hosted and organized with the NH Municipal Association, three public Law Lectures where practicing attorneys provide a legal perspective on local planning, zoning, and other municipal issues.
- ❖ Hosted a regional National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) workshop in cooperation with the NH Office of State Planning and the NH Office of Emergency Management.
- ❖ Increased capability to work with local communities to produce All Hazard Mitigation Plans.
- ❖ Prepared and adopted regional recommendations for Transportation Enhancement Funding.
- ❖ Contributed to area efforts interested in forming a Lakes Region Workforce Housing Action Committee, with participants from the private, municipal, and non-profit sectors.

It has been a pleasure serving you, and we look forward to continuing our efforts to meet regional needs.

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Meredith Chamber of Commerce

Susan Cerutti, Executive Director

The Meredith Area Chamber of Commerce consists of over 340 businesses who are organized to advance and promote the commercial, industrial, service, professional, tourism, and retail interests of Meredith and its trade area. While many of the activities of the Chamber are tourist related, all segments of the business community make up the membership. All members are listed on the Chamber's web site- www.meredithcc.org. This past year the Chamber office located at 272 Daniel Webster Highway was open during the winter and the Information Center was open daily from May through October. Visitors to the Center found a wide array of promotional literature. Staffing the Center in 2002 were Judy Manning, Jean Greenlaw, Stephanie Whiting, and Molly Landrigan.

The major marketing effort of the Chamber in 2002 was a revision of the Chamber's web site, www.meredithcc.org. Again this year, the Chamber conducted a national advertising campaign designed to entice people to visit the area and we produced and distributed 225,000 copies of a four color, high quality brochure. The 2002 Meredith Area brochure was distributed at high traffic tourist attractions in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, at corporate locations in New England and New York, and in the hotels in the Greater Boston area. The brochures are also at the state rest areas and the Manchester Airport Visitor Center and mailed out in response to inquiries received at the Chamber.

Chamber sponsored events included the Lakes Region Fine Arts and Crafts Festival, the Fourth of July Fireworks, Christmas Open House, the SpringFest Gala, The Community Yard Sale, and the Awards Ceremony at the Annual Meeting. Regular Business After Hours were held and the Antiquing Guide, The Marine Services Guide, the Around the Town Map, the Wedding Guide, the Professional Guide, and the Service Guide were all continued.

The Chamber greatly appreciates the support of the community for its many activities and is especially appreciative of the cooperation and assistance received from the various departments of the town in carrying out its many projects.

Meredith Community Action Program

Prudence Tylanda, Area Director

The Meredith Community Action Program is a local, community based, non-profit organization dedicated to addressing the needs of the elderly and low-income residents in the Town of Meredith.

During the past year, we have provided \$461,502 in services to Meredith residents. As you are aware, our major concern has always been, and will continue to be, the delivery of needed services to the elderly, handicapped and low-income residents of the community. Some of the services we provide are administration of the Fuel Assistance Program, the Women, Infants and Children Program, congregate meals at the Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, emergency food pantry, family planning and transportation. For more information, please contact 279-4096.

We wish to thank the Town of Meredith for it's continued support of CAP.

Meredith Historical Society

John Robinson, President

The purpose of the Society is to preserve and protect our understanding of our past, so that we can chart our future with an appreciation of who and what we are as a community. The Main Street Museum, with its collection of town documents and memorabilia, is open four days a week with a paid attendant from Memorial Day until Columbus Day. The Farm Museum, one of Meredith's two buildings on the National Register, is opened two afternoons a week during the summer. Both museums also are open to groups by appointment.

The Farm Museum is of special interest to children, and during the past year school groups from both Inter-Lakes and Gilford visited the site. The Traveling Farm Museum Trunk continues to be used in local schools, and during the past year, a program at the Main Street Museum featured local schoolchildren. From May to November, adult programs are provided to the general public as well as to Society members on the first Tuesday of each month. During the past year, there were local speakers on the town's past and present, as well as outside speakers on the regional and New Hampshire topics. The Society's members continue to provide both genealogical and informal property title information to the public. Both to make that job easier, and also to improve access to our resources, we are computer-coding and classifying our entire collection.

With the help of many Meredith citizens and businesses who contributed money, building materials and their talents, the historic Farm Museum building, which began its life almost 200 years ago as the Pottle Meeting House, has been substantially restored, and will continue to undergo improvements. On a continuing basis, the Society sponsors yard and bake sales to raise funds and to bring the public's attention to our facilities.

With the continuing interest and support of the Town and its citizens, the Society brings to the Farm Museum and to its corner of Main Street a lively presence that celebrates the town's past while anticipating its planned growth and change.

Meredith Public Health Nursing Association

Jane H. Kiah, RN, Executive Director

Meredith Public Health Nursing Association is a Medicare, Medicaid, BC/BS approved and State Licensed non-profit agency that provides Skilled Nursing, Psychiatric Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Home Health Aides, and Homemaker Service to the residents of Meredith and Center Harbor.

Our staff includes: Jane H Kiah, RN, Executive Director; Patricia Healey, RN MSN; Marie Simpson, RN, Eileen Moore, RN; Joan Wood, RN, Janice Adams, RN; Joanne McLean, PT; Craig Walton, PT; Stephen Walton, PT; Elaine Blizzard, OT; Judy Stoecklin, MSPA, CCC-SLP; Marilyn Kimball, LNA; Sheila Grad, LNA; Donna Bilodeau, LNA; Dale Connolly, Office Manager; Annette Paine, Office Asst., and Aglaia Rouvalis Office Clerk.

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Meredith Public Health Nursing continued...

Home Visit Services in Meredith during 2002 include: 1859 RN; 284 Weekend/Evenings; 411 Physical Therapy; 7 Speech Therapy; 120 Occupational Therapy; 2366 LNA; 752 Office Visits; 517 Flu Vaccines.

Memorial gifts were received in memory of Jessie Allen, Raymond Amabile, Beatrice Bartlett, Jean Bartlett, Martin Cogan, Mildred Creelman, Robert Furey, Harry Gleason, Helene Gleason, Virginia Graf, Carol Hartford, Walworth Johnson, Normand Laime, Roy Locke, Edwin Moulton, Leory Moulton, Robert Nichols, Audrey Smith, Francis Soley, and Edna Ulm.

A sincere thank you is extended to the residents of Meredith and our many volunteers for their continued strong support to our agency.

New Beginnings~A Women's Crisis Center

Kathy Keller, Director

On behalf of New Beginnings - A Women's Crisis Center and those we serve, I would like to thank the Town of Meredith for its continued support. The \$1,500.00 allocation in 2001 assisted us in providing emergency services, advocacy and support to those whose lives have been affected by domestic and sexual violence.

New Beginnings offers 24-Hour Crisis Line. We operate a full time shelter for women and children and have safe homes for male victims; provide support and advocacy at courts, hospitals, police stations, and social service agencies. New Beginnings offers peer support groups for those affected by domestic or sexual violence, assists with needs assessments, case management and housing options; and does community outreach and education programs for youth, teens and adults. **All services are confidential and are provided free of charge.** The advocacy, outreach, education and support services our agency provides represent many service hours.

New Beginnings is one of 14 members of the statewide NH Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, promoting statewide networking and resource sharing among domestic and sexual assault programs. The coalition is an evaluating body and administrator of state and federal contracts that provide subsidiary funding for member programs while advocating for legislative change that affect victims/survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

We greatly appreciate the support of the Meredith community. We are dedicated to human service, social responsibility and fiscal accountability. Although, New Beginnings represents a finite portion of the Meredith Town Budget the returns are immeasurable. We welcome your participation in our efforts to insure a world of safety for our children and ourselves.

Volunteers are an integral part of the work done by our agency. In 2001 there were 15,240 hours of service provided by volunteers. They are always needed and the opportunity to serve is fulfilling. Thank you for joining us to *make a difference*.

New Hampshire Humane Society

Claudia Abdinoor, Executive Director

The New Hampshire Humane Society (NHHS) provides numerous services to the residents and companion animals in the Town of Meredith. Canine strays are safely housed for 7 days (cats, 3 days) prior to becoming available for adoption to the public. NHHS takes in owner- relinquished pets by appointment and matches the animal with the best adoptive home. We offer the residents of your town an alternative to releasing their animal to the streets when they can no longer care for them. This year we were able to offer 63+ Meredith cats a safe haven when their home caught on fire and was subsequently condemned. Quarantine facilities are made available to the town as well as animal cruelty investigation. Educational programs are offered to town schools and civic organizations. If you are interested in any of the programs, please call the administrative offices at (603) 524-8236 or contact the shelter at (603) 524-3252.

The total number of animals brought to the New Hampshire Humane Society from your Town during 2002 (to 10/18/02) is as follows:

Stray Animals from:	Town of Meredith	Owner Surrendered
Dogs & Puppies	35	12
Cats & Kittens	32	83
Other Animals	1	
Deceased	4	
Protective Custody	<u>0</u>	<u> </u>
Total received	72	95

Total number of all animals received during 2002: 167

Winnepesaukee Wellness Center

James Wallace, Meredith Representative, Advisory Committee

Winnepesaukee Wellness Center is located at 80 Bean Road in Moultonboro near the Center Harbor line. Area residents with physician approval, receive medically supervised exercise, education and consultation by a competent staff. The center is now open from 6 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week.

The center offers cholesterol and blood sugar screening on special occasions. The popular foot clinic is held on Thursdays and other clinics for breathing, diabetes, eating disorders and diet are held on a regular basis. Enrollment as of October 15th was 167 with 37 from Meredith. The monthly fee is \$40.00 for the first family member and \$20.00 for the second. The annual cost of providing service to each person enrolled is \$619.00. As additional residents are enrolled, the cost per person will be reduced.

The Towns of Meredith, Moultonboro, Center Harbor and Sandwich provide financial support. The cost of providing services last year was \$103,448.00. Income from client revenue, contributions of area towns, gifts and a golf tournament totaled \$59,323.00. The \$44,125.00 deficit is made up by Lakes Region General Healthcare.

Frances A. Eames Wildlife Area

Peter Miller, Conservation Committee Member

The Meredith Conservation Commission, acting for the town, is seeking to preserve the 188-acre Eames parcel on Tucker Mountain Road. This land abuts the Hamlin Recreation and Conservation Area, and the two natural preserves would comprise 500-acres of permanently protected forest and wetlands. This is one of the town's last opportunities to preserve such an expanse of unfragmented open space.

The Eames property has two large ponds with active beaver colonies. A wildlife inventory conducted last year found abundant moose sign. The blue herons that nest in Hamlin feed in the Eames ponds, and migrating waterfowl make stopovers there spring and fall. Preserving the Eames property would help protect the habitat these and other creatures need to survive. It would also expand recreational opportunities for Meredith residents and tourists. Hamlin's trails would be extended to the Eames Wildlife Area's remote and lovely beaver ponds.

The town has applied for a \$100,000 Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grant to help purchase the property. As this Town Report goes to press, funding looks very promising. Grant proposals will also be submitted to the Sweetwater Trust and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Donations will be solicited from individuals, businesses, and corporations. The Commission intends to raise as much of the purchase price from outside sources as possible. We hope that the Eames Wildlife Area will be a reality by town meeting 2004.

Longridge Farm

Peter Miller, Conservation Committee Member

The Conservation Commission, again on behalf of the town, is working to preserve Longridge Farm, Daniel Webster Highway. It seeks to purchase the development rights to 123-acres of fields and forests. 92% of this land is prime agricultural soil or farmland soil of local importance. If this quest is successful, all but the two acres the farm buildings sit on will be preserved as undeveloped open space in perpetuity. The terms of the conservation easement will be binding on all future owners of the property.

The external appearance of the colonial-era farmhouse and barn may also be preserved by the addition of an historic preservation clause to the conservation easement. The easement deed will stipulate that the two acres containing these structures shall not be subdivided from the land protected by the easement. The intent is to keep Longridge Farm's colonial viewscape part of Meredith forever. The public will have access to the farm for hiking, bird watching, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing.

The cost of the farm's development rights will be raised through grant awards, private donations, and town appropriation if necessary. The town's proposal to New Hampshire's Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) passed the critical first cut. The town has requested \$270,150. The town will also submit a grant proposal to the Federal Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program in early spring.

Longridge Farm is a Meredith landmark, a vital part of Meredith's cultural identity. It has been a working farm for more than 230 years, and it is Meredith's most sustained link to its agrarian past. It is cherished for its agricultural produce, its scenic loveliness, its historic significance, and its sense of place. We can all take pride in its preservation.

Hamlin Recreation and Conservation Area

Peter Miller, Conservation Committee Member

On September 28th, 2002, the Meredith Conservation Commission opened the 310-acre Hamlin natural area to a large and enthusiastic public gathering. This culminated two years of trail routing, clearing, and blazing by Commission members and volunteers. More than 250 people hiked Hamlin's trails each day during peak foliage weekends, and snowshoers have been out on the trails all winter.

Hamlin's six miles of trails were designed to please all types of nature lovers all seasons of the year. The blue trail is a mostly gentle path that meanders around beaver ponds. Four rustic bridges span the outflow from these ponds. The trail is especially attractive during spring runoff, during peak autumn foliage, and when winter white blankets the evergreens. Watch for migrating wood ducks in late spring. Pink lady's slippers dot the trails in early June.

The yellow trail is a more strenuous trek to a fine open ledge above Lake Wicwas. Passing beside a blue heron rookery, stonewalls and cellar holes, the Old Stanton Cemetery, and huge glacial boulders on the way to the ledge, the trail has rewards for everyone. Prickly hornwort, a rare aquatic plant not previously recorded north of Rockingham County, grows in the rookery pond.

The red trail is a true wilderness experience. To hike through the previously untracked hemlock/red spruce/mixed oak old growth forest, the ancient sugarbush, and the pristine Lake Wicwas shore is to marvel that such wildness can be found so close to home. Breaking virgin snow here after a nor'easter is a never-to-be-forgotten peak moment. Three pockets of rare 400-500 year old black gum trees grow in the hemlock/spruce forest. Jack-in-the-pulpits sprout beneath 300-year-old maples in the sugarbush.

All told, Hamlin offers an unusual diversity of easily accessed experiences. There are very few trail systems in New Hampshire that include high view ledges and unspoiled lakeshore, where one can hear loons call while gazing at trees that predate white settlement, where virtually every step of every trail is rewarding. State-of-the-art safety-related amenities - the information kiosk, topographical maps, bridges, trail signs, and carefully placed color-coded blazes - help everyone feel at ease with nature in this outstanding municipal park.



2002 Community Plan ~ Acknowledgements

The Planning Board would like thank the many citizens of Meredith who participated in the community planning process. Specifically we wish to acknowledge the following volunteers for their contribution to the Community Plan.

Community Plan Coordinating Committee

Robert C. Flanders, Chair
Bill Athanas
Bill Bayard
Carol Bickford
Jim Miller
John Sherman
Roger Sorell
Ivor Thomas
Herb Vadney
Chris Whitcher

Community Facilities and Human Resources

Subcommittee

Chris Whitcher, Chair
Jennifer Cotton
Jackie Kiesel
Ginny Lovett
Bill Nunamacher
Rudy Van Vegthen

Conservation and Community Recreation

Subcommittee

Ann Brienza, Chair
Bill Athanas
Margaret Flynn
Bill Harris
Lynne Hart
Carl Johnson, Sr.
Ronald Kiesel
Christianne Knisely
John Sherman
Cheryl Van Vegthen

Community Economic Development

Subcommittee

Jim Miller, Chair
Bill Bayard
Jack Carty
Allen Gable
Tony Halsey
Bernie Kramer
Vince Kuharic
Miller Lovett
Barry Lukatch
Cheryl Lukatch
Edith Mongo
Florence Nutter

Transportation Subcommittee

Paul Dillon, Chair
Eileen Harris
Max Jenness
Maureen Kuharic
Jack Robinson
Roger Sorell
Herb Vadney

Housing and Utilities Subcommittee

Carol Bickford, Co-Chair
Ivor Thomas, Co-Chair
Robert C. Flanders
Bob Hill
Kay Kennelly
Robert Kennelly
John Robinson
Leslie Robinson
Pru Tylenda

The Meredith Community Plan was written by Town Planner, John C. Edgar AICP.
Technical assistance was provided by the Lakes Region Planning Commission and by Dr. Fred Hatch.

Capital Improvements Program ~ Advisory Committee

Peter Brothers, Chairman
Allen Gable, Vice Chairman
Robert C. Flanders, Board of Selectmen
Scott Nolan, Inter-Lakes School Board
Pam Bliss, Planning Board
Roland Boucher
Liz Lapham

The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Advisory Committee continued its fourth year of service to the Planning Board providing the Town of Meredith and the Inter-Lakes School District with recommended capital improvements projected over a six-year period. By consensus, the CIP Advisory Committee worked to update and revise its recommendations for the years 2003-2008. The CIP Advisory Committee reviews and/or amends previously established obligations or priorities known as the “base plan”, then considers new projects identified through an annual review process.

The continued need and support for funding of the Community Center is an excellent example of our CIP process working towards a common goal for our Town and Schools.

As part of the 2002 review cycle, the Fire and Police Departments identified a future need to replace the police and downtown fire stations. The departments proposed that Fire, Police and Emergency Management Services be incorporated into a combined Public Safety Complex. The Committee recommended that an Expendable Trust Fund be established for this purpose and that \$250,000 be allocated in 2003 to provide for site acquisition. In order to stay within our 2003 CIP financial constraints, the Committee recommended that an allocation previously scheduled for 2003 towards a scheduled fire truck replacement be reduced by \$125,000 and re-allocated in 2006 to complete the funding for the truck replacement.

Copies of the Capital Improvements Program 2003-2008 are available at the Town Office and at the Library. We welcome your comments and suggestions, so please feel free to contact John Edgar, Town Planner or any of the Committee members.

As Chairman of the CIP Advisory Committee, I would like to thank the volunteer Advisory Committee members, and express our appreciation to the staff of the Town of Meredith and the Inter-Lakes School District for their continued support and contributions to the CIP process. Thank you all!

Peter Brothers, Chairman
CIP Advisory Committee

VITAL STATISTICS

Town of Meredith ~ Births

Date	Childs Name	Father Name	Mothers Name
1/6/02	Wilson, Bryce Keegan Goss	Wilson, Jacob	Wilson, Angela
1/17/02	Donnelly, Kathryn Grace	Donnelly, Robert	Donnelly, Sandra
2/21/02	Candage, Ella C.	Candage, Daniel	Candage, Maria
2/28/02	Kruppa, Abigail Grace	Kruppa, William	Kruppa, Grace
3/10/02	Durand, Mollie Marie	Durand, Nicholas	Durand, Kimberly
3/11/02	McClintock, Craig Alan	Mansur, Harley	Mansur, Amanda
3/19/02	Dube, Aiden Daniel	Dube, Daniel	Dube, Kristin
3/30/02	Flanders, Anthony Scott	Flanders, Brian	Flanders, Mariluz
4/4/02	Duymazlar, Ava Anne	Duymazlar, Hasan	Duymazlar, Jane
4/18/02	Swingle, Olivia Gail	Swingle, Gene	Swingle, Debra
4/21/02	Fontaine, Victor Robert Morrill	Fontaine, Wesley	Vachon, Victoria
4/26/02	Zimmerman, Olivia Grace	Zimmerman, Michael	Zimmerman, Kimberly
5/4/02	Guyotte, Collin Lee	Guyotte, Steven	Guyotte, Melesa
5/12/02	Lara, Angelica Isabelle	Lara, Wilkin	Lara, Annie
5/18/02	Clough, Patrick Michael	Clough, Michael	Clough, Julie
6/7/02	Folsom, Kaitlyn Elise	Folsom, Allen	Folsom, Cynthia
6/11/02	Walker, Olivia Marie	Walker, Michael	Walker, Courtney
6/11/02	Neggers, Erik Robert	Neggers, Jeffrey	Neggers, Janine
6/24/02	Edgar, Makenna Hale	Edgar, John	Percy Edgar, Monica
7/2/02	Chrusciel, Brenna Margaret	Chrusciel, Michael	Chrusciel, Kathleen
7/8/02	Mulsow, Cape Sebastian	Mulsow, Eric	Mulsow, Chelsea
7/22/02	Greene, Connor Michael	Greene, Kersten	Greene, Jennifer
9/20/02	Boynton, Austin Eric	Boynton, Daniel	Marino-Boynton, Angela
10/4/02	Roubo, Adam Michael	Roubo, Michael	Roubo, Lynn
10/25/02	Hastings, Shannon Grace	Hastings, Alexander	Hastings, Christin
10/27/02	McBrian, Liam Michael	McBrian, Stephen	McBrian, Melanie
11/28/02	Merrill, Mykyle Robert	Merrill, Michael	Merrill, Michelle
12/28/02	Lagrandeur, Afton Briggs	Lagrandeur, Shadd	Lagrandeur, Erica

Town of Meredith ~ Marriages

Date	Grooms Name	Grooms Residency	Brides Name	Brides Residency
1/20/02	Boughalem, Farid	Bourg-Saint-Maurice, FR	Cole, Rebecca A.	Center Sandwich, NH
2/16/02	Laflamme, Michael E.	Meredith, NH	Mercier, Kathleen S.	Meredith, NH
3/15/02	Sawyer, Stephen T.	Meredith, NH	Romprey, Crystal R.	Meredith, NH
3/23/02	Edney, William M.	Meredith, NH	Bennett, Sharon J.	Meredith, NH
3/30/02	Kipp, Mathew T.	Meredith, NH	Neff, Kristy L.	College Station, TX
4/5/02	McClintock, Jasson A.	Meredith, NH	Maguire, Melissa A.	Meredith, NH
4/11/02	Damm, David A.	Meredith, NH	Tomlinson, Cindy M.	Meredith, NH
4/13/02	Richards III, William F.	Meredith, NH	Fritz, Carolyn S.	Meredith, NH
4/13/02	Deschenes, Richard S.	Meredith, NH	Dubino, Lisa J.	Meredith, NH
4/27/02	Johnson, Kevin E.	Meredith, NH	Coulstring, Terry A.	Meredith, NH
5/6/02	Guyotte, Steven M.	Meredith, NH	Black, Melesa L.	Meredith, NH
5/11/02	Howe Jr, Roy E.	Meredith, NH	Peschel, Wendolyn D.	Meredith, NH
5/26/02	Jones, Todd N.	Virginia Beach, VI	Johns, Valerie L.	Lexington, MA
5/26/02	Crane, Thomas R. Jr.	Meredith, NH	Kurkjian, Ann L.	Wellesley, MA
6/1/02	Paquette, Bryan M.	Meredith, NH	Smith, Veronica M.	Meredith, NH
6/1/02	Plummer, Donald A.	Meredith, NH	Rumrill, Brenda L.	Meredith, NH
6/8/02	Sullivan, Brian P.	Meredith, NH	Bertholet, Amy L.	Meredith, NH
6/8/02	Corso, Richard B.	Meredith, NH	Howes, Tina L.	Meredith, NH
6/13/02	Griffin, John F.	Middleboro, MA	Chiros, Georgiana	Middleboro, MA
6/22/02	Gonzales, Christopher C.	Meredith, NH	Singelais, Rebekah Jo	Ashland, MA
6/22/02	Gabrielson, Jeffrey	Redondo Beach, CA	Lappen, Stacy J.	Redondo Beach, CA
6/22/02	Shick, George C. Jr.	Milford, NH	Barrett, Karen	Milford, NH
6/22/02	Nault, Zachary M.	Meredith, NH	Akerley, Meredith S.	Meredith, NH
6/22/02	Finnegan, Kevin D.	Canton, Ma	Connolly, Erin-Leigh	Canton, MA
6/28/02	Grue, Daniel F.	Tamworth, NH	Quinlan, Tammy S.	Tamworth, NH
7/1/02	Bradley, Raymond Jr.	Mashpee, MA	Nash, Cindy J.	Mashpee, MA
7/6/02	LaPlante, David S.	Meredith, NH	Charles, Diana	Meredith, NH
7/6/02	Turmelle, Donald A.	Berwick, ME	Alex, Karen M.	Berwick, ME
7/13/02	Kyles, John M. Jr.	New York, New York	Cayten, Carasandra W.	New York, New York
7/13/02	Rice, Robert J.	Whitinsville, MA	Melia, Jennifer A.	Whitinsville, MA
7/20/02	Maney, Mitchell A.	Meredith, NH	Fox, Wendy	Laconia, NH
7/20/02	Towle, Matthew R.	Meredith, NH	Bourassa, Erin L.	Meredith, NH
7/28/02	Mather, Alan F.	Holderness, NH	Smith, Dorothy M.	Plymouth, NH
7/30/02	Santry, Terrance G.	Meredith, NH	DiLorenzo, Donna G.	Meredith, NH
8/2/02	Keller, Charles W. Jr.	Meredith, NH	Von Kittlitz, Nancy M.	West Newbury, MA
8/4/02	Wilcox Douglas R.	New York, New York	Henning, Margaret Jo	New York, New York
8/9/02	Labrie, Zachary J.	Meredith, NH	Rigney, Diane C.	Gilford, NH

VITAL STATISTICS

Town of Meredith ~ Marriages

Date	Grooms Name	Grooms Residency	Brides Name	Brides Residency
8/10/02	Klefstad, Raymond O. II.	Irvine, CA	Anderson, Susan L.	Irvine, CA
8/16/02	Domings, Michael P.	No.Grafton, MA	Babowitch, Terri J.	No.Grafton, MA
8/17/02	Butler, James S. Jr.	Great Neck, NY	Djurkovic, Branka	New York, New York
8/17/02	Blake, Thomas K.	Belmont, MA	Reeves, Heather A.	Belmont, MA
8/19/02	Thompson, Mark L.	Meredith, NH	McCarthy, Eleanor M.	Meredith, NH
8/24/02	Wamp, Stephen R.	Rochester, NY	Byrns, Suzanne L.	Rochester, NY
8/31/02	Goldstein, Jason N.	Baltimore, MD	Lake, Cynthia C.	Washington, DC
9/5/02	Sperry, Frederick B.	St.Louis, MO	Ring, Stephanie D.	St.Louis, MO
9/7/02	Ferland, Eric J.	Meredith, NH	Wiley, Stephanie H.	Meredith, NH
9/12/02	Milchev, Valentin I.	Meredith, NH	Dilascia, Stacey L.	Meredith, NH
9/14/02	Connolly, Joseph P.	Essex Junction, VT	Hawko, Susan A.	Essex Junction, VT
9/14/02	Robinson, Jeremy P.	Portland, ME	Neely, Jerusha A.	Portland, ME
9/20/02	Marbus, Johannes D.	Gouda, Holland	Bekkum, Sanne Van	Gouda, Holland
9/21/02	Ouellette, Dave J.	Laconia, NH	Fournier, Tammy L.	Laconia, NH
9/21/02	Guckenburg, Alex J.	Cambridge, MA	Witham, Sarah F.	Cambridge, MA
9/27/02	Tannourji, Michael J.	Long Beach, CA	Cayer, Lorie M.	Long Beach, CA
9/28/02	England, Shawn P.	Meredith, NH	Gill, Katherine D.	Meredith, NH
9/28/02	Riley, Joseph M.	Meredith, NH	Smith, Stacey M.	Belmont, NH
9/28/02	Goren, Kyle S.	Meredith, NH	Bower, Sarah A.	Boston, MA
10/5/02	Rauser, John J.	Seymour, CT	Boutin, Jennifer A.	Seymour, CT
10/5/02	Cram, Charles E.	Meredith, NH	Davis, Wanda L.	Meredith, NH
10/8/02	Kendall, Luke J.	Meredith, NH	Mitchell, Joleen	Melvin Village, NH
10/12/02	Pingree, Christopher H.	Concord, NH	Fabiano, Jennifer A.	Concord, NH
10/13/02	Mohan, Timothy J.	Meredith, NH	Shetler, Allison	Meredith, NH
10/18/02	Orgel, Sean M.	Holbrook, MA	Hebb, Sharene L.	Holbrook, MA
10/19/02	Mallon, William F.	East Bridgewater, MA	Nelson, Marguerite E.	East Bridgewater, MA
10/19/02	Johnson, Francis E.	Meredith, NH	Leblanc, Georgette A.	Nashua, NH
10/19/02	Britt, Timothy T.	Meredith, NH	Wright, Jennifer L.	Meredith, NH
10/26/02	Booth, Peter A.	Harwich, MA	Duffy, Karen A.	Harwich, MA
10/26/02	Whitcher, Christopher	Meredith, NH	Falkenstrom, Erica S.	Meredith, NH
10/27/02	Morrill, Stuart L.	Moultonboro, NH	Simkins, Amy J.	Meredith, NH
11/1/02	Marino, Paul A.	Meredith, NH	Hernandez, Judith D.	Meredith, NH
11/9/02	George, Edmund K.	Meredith, NH	Hodecker, Christine A.	Meredith, NH
11/15/02	Satkowski, Peter J.	Stafford Springs, CT	Faucher, Cindy M.	Stafford Springs, CT
11/16/02	Weeks, Gary S. Jr.	Meredith, NH	Linke, Melissa L.	Meredith, NH
11/25/02	Tichy, Roland O.	Meredith, NH	VanTassel, Amanda J.	Meredith, NH
12/14/02	MacDonald, Benjamin	Fort Wainright, AK	Anderson, Elissa L.	Meredith, NH
12/14/02	Sallies, David R. Jr.	Meredith, NH	McDonald, Lola E.	Meredith, NH

Town of Meredith ~ Deaths and Burials

Date	Name	Place of Death	Name of Father	Name of Mother
01/07/02	Jones, Viola M.	Meredith, NH		
01/13/02	Erickson, Sigrid M.	Laconia, NH	Anderson-Bloom, Gustaf	Johnson, Hedwig
01/13/02	Fleming, Kevin F.	Laconia, NH	Fleming, James	Rowlands, Sarah
01/16/02	Henry, Carl M.	Meredith, NH		
01/17/02	Sirles, Mamie A.	Laconia, NH	Jenness, Chester	Johnson, Leona
01/18/02	Vachon, Margaret	Laconia, NH	Souard, Jacque	Merril, Iola
01/21/02	Wolfe, Mary E.	Meredith, NH	Denning, Byron	Unknown, Melvina
02/02/02	Hurd, Howard L.	Manchester, NH		
02/05/02	Chirgwin, Mary N.	Meredith, NH		
02/05/02	Powers, Samuel R.	Meredith, NH	Powers, George	Russell, Florence
02/06/02	Morse, Celeste A.	Meredith, NH	Melanson, Joseph	Unknown, Elina
02/11/02	Smith, Audrey A.	Meredith, NH	Smith, Harvey	Greenwood, Helen
02/17/02	Chekas, Socrates A.	Bristol, CT		
02/21/02	Ladd, Lewis K.	Meredith, NH		
02/22/02	Stevens, Bonnie L.	Laconia, NH	Metevier, Homer	Gibbons, Pauline
02/25/02	Atteberry, Roy L. Jr.	Meredith, NH	Atteberry, Roy	Redman, Maggie
03/01/02	Graf, Virginia D.	Meredith, NH	Densberger, Harrie	Bellock, Olga
03/02/02	Smith, Paul W.	Lebanon, NH	Smith, Ralph	Bellatty, Barbara
03/03/02	Schaffnit, George L.	Laconia, NH	Schaffnit, Leonard	Brooks, Rose
03/03/02	Furey, Robert A.	Meredith, NH		
03/10/02	Murgatroy, Edna V.	Meredith, NH	Johnson, Andrew	Johnson, Sophia
03/12/02	Moody, Wendell C.	Meredith, NH	Moody, Clarence	Pease, Nannie
03/16/02	Bartlett, Beatrice M.	Meredith, NH	Tyler, Leslie	French, Jennie
03/18/02	Davis, Madeline J.	Meredith, NH	Jenness, Clarence	White, Edith
03/21/02	Wiesner, Marion L.	Meredith, NH		
03/21/02	Locke, Roy F.	White River Junction, VT	Locke, Warren	Fay, Hattie
03/29/02	Colombini, Josephine	Laconia, NH	Poplees, Joseph	Tarantino, Nancy
04/03/02	Bushman, Patricia I.			
04/07/02	Thorndike, Barbara A.	Meredith, NH	Davis, Emerson	Ladd, Doris
04/09/02	Patterson, Walter D.	Meredith, NH		
04/13/02	Weeks, Gary S. Sr.	Meredith, NH	Weeks, George	Jackson, Freda
04/17/02	Schreiter, Ralph W.	Meredith, NH	Schreiter, Max	Richter, Martha
04/17/02	Nelson, Ralph E. Jr.	Florida		
04/17/02	Grant, Leona M.	Meredith, NH		
04/21/02	Kimball, Mary J.	Laconia, NH	Bisi, Filippo	Servini, Teresa
04/23/02	Rosenthal, Dorothy M.	Cherry Hill, NJ		
04/26/02	Sweet, A. Evelyn	Meredith, NH		
05/01/02	Robinson, Alice E.	Meredith, NH	Clapper, Nelson	Stone, Susan
05/07/02	Mudgett, Ida H.	Meredith, NH	Chamberlain, Harry	Jones, Ella

VITAL STATISTICS

Town of Meredith ~ Deaths and Burials

Date	Name	Place of Death	Name of Father	Name of Mother
05/09/02	MacDonald, Robert F.	Meredith, NH		
05/11/02	White, Helen M.	Concord, NH	Brittain, Gordon	Kasuilinas, Josephine
05/12/02	Person, Bessie A.	Meredith, NH	Rosewarne, Alfred	Christophers, Dora
05/15/02	Ulm, Edna E.	Meredith, NH	Evans, Delbert	Lewis, Bridgett
05/22/02	Fraser, Mernie H.	Laconia, NH	Fraser, Raymond	Maclellan, Hazel
05/24/02	Bujeaud, Michel N.	Meredith, NH		
05/24/02	Nichols, Robert R.	Laconia, NH	Bell, Ernest	Nichols, Henriette
06/02/02	Rollins, Janet R.	Laconia, NH	McMann, Paul	Tibbetts, Leonara
06/09/02	Jordan, Mary A.	Laconia, NH	Mayer, Leslie	Meyer, Mary
06/13/02	Chrusciel, John T.	Meredith, NH	Chrusciel, Michael	Reilly, Kathleen
06/13/02	Gilman, Dorothy M.	Laconia, NH	Cross, Earl	Rollins, Mary
06/14/02	Pearson, Christopher	Meredith, NH		
06/23/02	Philbrick, Peter B.	Washtenaw, MI		
06/25/02	Vignali, Carol M.	Laconia, NH	De Celle, Raymond	Djerf, Gertrude
07/03/02	Tucker, Leslie M.	Meredith, NH	Tucker, Fred	Boynton, Abby
07/13/02	VanMeter, Eleanor S.	Laconia, NH	Sharkey, Royal	Cleary, Margaret
08/01/02	Landon, Irene I.	Meredith, NH	Nelson, Frank	Willabee, Florence
08/12/02	MacDonald, Ada A.	Meredith, NH		
08/13/02	Chase, Howard A.	Meredith, NH	Chase, Warren	Leavitt, Violet
08/23/02	Wilkins, Evelyn M.	Meredith, NH		
08/27/02	Belyea, Norman B.	Meredith, NH	Belyea, George	Wallace, Marguerite
08/27/02	Mentel, James R.	Meredith, NH		
08/27/02	Fullerton, Roy F.	Meredith, NH		
08/28/02	Stockbower, Harold W.	Ossipee, NH	Stockbower, Harry	Strahan, Mary
08/30/02	Adrignola, Margaret	Meredith, NH		
09/02/02	Hanson, Violet M.	Meredith, NH	Freeston, John	Monahan, Theresa
09/04/02	Titara, Joshua J.	Meredith, NH	Titara, Joel	Mac Fee, Kim
09/10/02	Bartlett, Lillian C.	Laconia, NH		
09/10/02	Yeaton, Phillip E.	Meredith, NH		
09/12/02	Finn, Deborah P.	Laconia, NH	Bortis, Frederick	Page, Harriett
09/20/02	Wiesner, Louis A.	Meredith, NH		
09/29/02	Lewis, Matthew D.	Laconia, NH	Lewis, David	Moquet, Chantal
10/02/02	Pettitt, Reggie L. Sr.	Meredith, NH		
10/02/02	Rannacher, Rita A.	Meredith, NH		
10/04/02	Amabile, Raymond T.	Laconia, NH		
10/05/02	Gregory, Laura J.	Meredith, NH	Marshall, Lorenzo	Lynch, Harriet
10/07/02	Jacob, Rachel P.	Meredith, NH		
10/14/02	Colp, Barbara J.	Meredith, NH		

Town of Meredith ~ Deaths and Burials

Date	Name	Place of Death	Name of Father	Name of Mother
10/18/02	Dunlap, Judith B.	Meredith, NH		
10/22/02	Feliciotti, Enio	Meredith, NH	Feliciotti, Olympio	Cesolini, Ida
10/28/02	Goss, Alice G.	Meredith, NH	Gill, Harry	Townley, Lavinia
10/29/02	Saul, Bernard	Meredith, NH		
11/02/02	Heffernan, Martin E.	Meredith, NH	Heffernan, Martin	Hubbard, Ellen
11/05/02	Dinegan, Mary L.	Meredith, NH	Dinegan, Andrew	Guertin, Mary
11/07/02	Drinkhall, John R.	Laconia, NH	Drinkhall, John	Johnson, Catherine
11/09/02	Stevens Evelyn D.	Meredith, NH		
11/14/02	Herbst, Margaret J.	Meredith, NH	Seaman, George	Shaw, Anita
11/16/02	Clermont, Joseph L.	Meredith, NH		
11/16/02	Robitaille, Florette	Meredith, NH		
11/17/02	Molloy, Thomas P.	Meredith, NH		
11/20/02	Jaquith, Winifred E.	Meredith, NH	Brown, Henry	Downing, Viola
11/25/02	Barthelson, Gladys L.	Meredith, NH	Dickinson, Harry	Plummer, Lulu
11/27/02	Moulton, Edwin W.	Meredith, NH	Moulton, Nathan	Towle, Ruth
12/4/02	Golden, Ward	Meredith, NH	Golden, Edward	Ward, Mariam
12/9/02	Thornton, Jeanne	Meredith, NH	Chouinard, Alfred	Boucher, Elizabeth
12/11/02	Chevalier, Bertha R.	Meredith, NH	Beaubien, Thomas	Weir, Alice
12/15/02	Carignan, Herve A.	Meredith, NH		
12/19/02	Ramsay, Lois A.	Laconia, NH	Glick, John	Nason, Grace
12/19/02	Thompson, Virginia M.	Meredith, NH	Middleton, Richard	La Monte, Mary
12/20/02	Plancon, Edmund J.	Meredith, NH	Plancon, Carleton	Cruwts, Judith
12/21/02	Goetz, Julie L.	Meredith, NH	Beightol, Robert	Jourdan, Janet
12/21/02	Bowman, Elizabeth M.	Meredith, NH		
12/24/02	Spear, Dorothy M.	Meredith, NH	Mc Cutchion, Arthur	Jordon, Cecila
12/25/02	Dunton, Elaine D.	Meredith, NH	Davis, Harold	Horne, Grace
12/27/02	Jones, Clarence R.	Laconia, NH	Jones, Clarence	Puffinburger, Letha
12/28/02	Dauphinee, Clyde Sr.	Meredith, NH		



PLODZIK & SANDERSON

Professional Association/Accountants & Auditors

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • FAX-224-1380

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the
Board of Selectmen and Town Manager
Town of Meredith
Meredith, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of Meredith as of and for the year ended December 31, 2001 as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group which should be included in order to conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. As is the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Town of Meredith has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Meredith as of December 31, 2001, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its nonexpendable trust funds for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 20, 2002 on our consideration of the Town of Meredith's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Town of Meredith
Independent Auditor's Report

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Meredith taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund financial statements listed as schedules in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Meredith. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

May 20, 2002

Plodzik & Sanderson
Professional Association

Combined Balance Sheet ~ All Fund Types and Account Group

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

(Unaudited)

ASSETS & OTHER DEBITS	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types		Account Group	Total (Memorandum Only)
	Special Revenue		Capital Projects	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt		
	General						
Assets							
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 5,211,602	\$ 711,410	\$ 178,096	\$ 2,410,437		\$	8,511,545
Investments	1,113,082			192,102			1,305,184
Receivables (Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles)							
Interest							
Taxes	1,062,465						1,062,465
Accounts	70,686	269,290		439,524			779,500
Special Assessments-Current	24,272						24,272
Special Assessments-Noncurrent	337,616						337,616
Other	22,874						22,874
Interfund Receivable	19,318	1,850					21,168
Intergovernmental Receivable							-
Statutory Tax Liens Receivable	76,301						76,301
Statutory Tax Liens Reserved Until Collected	(76,301)						(76,301)
Prepaid Items							
Other Debits							-
Amount to be provided for Retirement of General Long-Term Debt						4,719,161	4,719,161
TOTAL ASSETS & OTHER DEBITS	\$ 7,861,914	\$ 982,550	\$ 178,096	\$ 3,042,063	\$	\$	16,783,784

Combined Balance Sheet ~ All Fund Types and Account Group

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002
(Unaudited)

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$	45,278	\$	30,661	\$	34,412	\$	-	\$	-	\$	110,351
Retainage Payable												-
Intergovernmental Payable		3,726,206										3,726,206
Interfund Payable		1,850				(9,748)						(7,898)
Escrow & Performance Deposits		60,558					22,255					82,813
Deferred Revenue		325,166		27,647								352,813
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable							439,524					439,524
General Obligation Debt Payable									4,430,790			4,430,790
Capital Leases Payable												-
Compensated Absences Payable									288,371			288,371
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	4,159,058	\$	58,308	\$	24,664	\$	461,779	\$	4,719,161	\$	9,422,970

EQUITY

Fund Balances

Reserved for Endowments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Reserved for Encumbrances	738,585	50,570					789,155
Reserved for Special Purposes	109,621	203,329	\$ 153,432	2,580,284			3,046,666
Unreserved							
Designated for Special Purposes		670,343					670,343
Undesignated (Deficit)	2,854,649						2,854,649
TOTAL EQUITY	3,702,856	924,242	153,432	2,580,284			7,360,814
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 7,861,914	\$ 982,550	\$ 178,096	\$ 3,042,063	\$ 4,719,161	\$ -	16,783,784

Special Revenue Funds

Combining Balance Sheet

December 31, 2002

(Unaudited)

	Public Library	Conservation Commission	D.A.R.E. Program	Cable Franchise Fee	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Total
<u>ASSETS</u>							
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 9,167	\$ 43,495		\$ 69,363	\$ 217,845	\$ 371,540	\$ 711,410
Receivables (Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles)							
Accounts				42,000	88,710	138,580	269,290
Interfund Receivable			1,850				1,850
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 9,167	\$ 43,495	\$ 1,850	\$ 111,363	\$ 306,555	\$ 510,120	\$ 982,549
<u>LIABILITIES & EQUITY</u>							
<u>Liabilities</u>							
Accounts Payable				\$ 30,153	\$ 509	\$ 30,661	
Due to General Fund							
Deferred Revenue-Access Fees				11,809	15,838	27,647	
TOTAL LIABILITIES				41,962	16,346	58,308	
<u>Equity</u>							
<u>Fund Balances</u>							
Reserved for Encumbrances					25,160	25,410	50,570
Reserved for Special Purposes					101,703	101,626	203,329
Unreserved							
Designated for Special Purposes	9,167	43,495	1,850	111,363	137,730	366,739	670,343
TOTAL EQUITY	9,167	43,495	1,850	111,363	264,593	493,774	924,241
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 9,167	\$ 43,495	\$ 1,850	\$ 111,363	\$ 306,555	\$ 510,120	\$ 982,549

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Trust and Agency Funds Combining Balance Sheet

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

(Unaudited)

	Trust Funds					Totals
	Expendable		Nonexpendable		Agency Funds	
	Library	Capital Reserve	Others	Town		
<u>ASSETS</u>						
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 7,530	\$ 220,547	\$ 2,142,977	\$ 17,128	\$ 22,255	\$ 2,410,437
Investments	107,606			84,496		192,102
<u>Receivables</u>						
Interest						-
Accounts					439,524	439,524
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 115,136	\$ 220,547	\$ 2,142,977	\$ 101,624	\$ 461,779	\$ 3,042,063
<u>LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES</u>						
<u>Liabilities</u>						
Interfund Payable						-
Escrow and Performance Deposits					22,255	22,255
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable					439,524	439,524
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-	-	-	461,779	461,779
<u>Fund Balances</u>						
Reserved For Endowments						-
Reserved For Special Purposes	115,136	220,547	2,142,977	101,624		2,580,284
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	115,136	220,547	2,142,977	101,624		2,580,284
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$ 115,136	\$ 220,547	\$ 2,142,977	\$ 101,624	\$ 461,779	\$ 3,042,063

Agency Funds

Combining Statement of Changes in Assets and Liabilities For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002 (Unaudited)

	Balance 1/1/02	Additions	Deductions	Balance 12/31/02
Developers' Performance Bond Fund				
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 18,978	\$ 30,318	\$ 27,041	\$ 22,255
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Escrow and Performance Deposits	\$ 18,978	\$ 30,318	\$ 27,041	\$ 22,255
 ICMA Deferred Compensation Plan				
<u>Assets</u>				
Due From Others	\$ 675,827	\$ 19,597	\$ 255,900	\$ 439,524
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable	\$ 675,827	\$ 19,597	\$ 255,900	\$ 439,524
 TOTAL - ALL AGENCY FUNDS				
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 18,978	\$ 30,318	\$ 27,041	\$ 22,255
Due From Others	675,827	19,597	255,900	439,524
Total Assets	\$ 694,805	\$ 49,915	\$ 282,941	\$ 461,779
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Escrow and Performance Deposits	18,978	30,318	27,041	22,255
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable	675,827	19,597	255,900	439,524
Total Liabilities	\$ 694,805	\$ 49,915	\$ 282,941	\$ 461,779

Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002
(Unaudited)

NONEXPENDABLE TRUSTS	PURPOSE	Principal			Income		Total	
		Beginning Balance 1/1/02	New Funds	Total Withdrawals	Ending Balance 12/31/02	Beginning Balance 1/1/02	Income	Ending Balances 12/31/02
							Income	Principal & Income
WWII Memorial	Upkeep	\$ 353			\$ 353	\$ 1,604	\$ 262	\$ 1,866
Oakland Cemetery	Cemetery Care	4,159			4,159	2,277	339	2,616
Outlying Cemeteries	Cemetery Care	10,379			10,379	13,038	2,061	15,099
Town Cemetery	Cemetery Care	18,487			18,487	10,652	1,596	12,248
Ebon S. Roberts	Library	299			299	114	17	131
Edwin E. Beede	Library	105,012		(6,607)	98,405	(368)	982	614
Samuel W. Rollins	Library	4,475			4,475	1,946	282	2,228
J. Bennett/E. Swain	Library	689			689	264	37	301
William E. Bixby	Library	150			150	57	8	65
Hattie R. Erskine	Library Clock	106			106	124	19	143
George S. Fogg	School District	1,534			1,534	1,000	152	1,152
Town Cemetery	General	2,909			2,909	2,942	461	3,403
Caroline M. Swift	Cemetery Wreath	450			450	167	23	190
J. Beede Cemetery	Perpetual Care	6,830			6,830	2,472	348	2,820
Total		\$ 155,832	\$ -	\$ (6,607)	\$ 149,225	\$ 36,289	\$ 6,588	\$ 42,877
								\$ 192,102

Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

(Unaudited)

EXPENDABLE TRUSTS	Principal			Income			Total Principal & Income
	Beginning Balance 1/1/02	New Funds	Ending Balance 12/31/02	(Withdrawals)	Beginning Balance 1/1/02	Income Expense	
Cemetery Maint.	\$ 15,515	\$ -	\$ 15,515	\$ -	\$ 1,378	\$ 235	\$ 1,613
Library	4,812	-	4,812	-	2,603	115	2,718
Employee Benefits	71,922	25,000	86,106	(10,816)	5,854	-	7,154
Landfill Closure	693,302	-	(6,010)	(699,312)	92,404	-	96,956
Sand/Salt Storage	(18,760)	18,760	(0)	-	35,212	312	16,764
Municipal Building	300,182	50,000	350,182	-	35,553	-	391,571
Solid Waste	85,900	40,000	125,900	-	5,234	-	133,281
Fire Department	2,141	-	(1,670)	(3,811)	2,602	9	942
Fire Department	290,264	175,000	323,278	(141,986)	9,178	1,568	334,024
Municipal Technology	80,000	-	50,000	(30,000)	3,728	-	52,004
Open Space/Conservation	25,000	25,000	50,000	-	35	894	50,929
Boardwalk Renovations	50,000	50,000	100,000	-	71	1,787	101,858
Community Center	152,053	150,000	277,053	(25,000)	2,602	4,355	284,010
Downtown Parking	350,002	50,000	400,002	-	10,692	9,359	420,053
Cygnets Shores Pump Station	-	50,000	50,000	-	4	-	50,004
Property Assessment Maintenance	-	100,000	100,000	-	8	-	100,008
Total Town Expendable Trusts:	2,102,332	733,760	1,925,169	(910,924)	207,159	32,469	2,144,313
Ruth S. Briggs	26,500	-	20,500	(6,000)	2,323	499	23,322
Total All Expendable Trusts:	\$ 2,128,832	\$ 733,760	\$ 1,945,669	\$ (916,924)	\$ 209,482	\$ 32,969	\$ 221,966

CAPITAL RESERVES	Principal			Income			Total Principal & Income
	Beginning Balance 1/1/02	New Funds	Ending Balance 12/31/02	(Withdrawals)	Beginning Balance 1/1/02	Income Expense	
Fire Truck	\$ 2,135	\$ -	\$ 2,135	\$ -	\$ 2,239	\$ 63	\$ 2,302
Police	8,414	-	8,414	-	2,653	199	2,852
Water Department	26,428	-	26,717	290	4,317	306	4,623
Prescott Park Expansion	536,231	-	67,185	(469,046)	26,286	3,552	456
Total Town Capital Reserves:	573,208	-	104,451	(468,757)	35,495	4,121	10,234
School Facilities Maintenance Fund	100,000	-	100,000	-	807	133	939
Interlakes School District	4,170	-	4,170	-	681	72	753
Total All Capital Reserves:	\$ 577,377	\$ -	\$ 108,621	\$ (468,757)	\$ 36,176	\$ 4,193	\$ 10,987

Comparative Statement of Revenues General Fund

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002
(Unaudited)

	Estimated	Actual	Over (Under) Budget
<u>Taxes</u>			
Property	\$ 15,948,904	\$ 15,963,306	\$ 14,402
Yield	21,250	25,887	4,637
Boat	42,750	42,989	239
Current Land Use Change Tax	-	11,530	11,530
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	97,750	113,129	15,379
Total Taxes	<u>16,110,654</u>	<u>16,156,841</u>	<u>46,188</u>
<u>Licenses and Permits</u>			
Motor Vehicle Permits	950,000	1,068,313	118,313
Building Permits	22,500	28,304	5,804
Other Licenses, Permits, Fees	48,250	52,180	3,930
Total Licenses and Permits	<u>1,020,750</u>	<u>1,148,798</u>	<u>128,048</u>
<u>Intergovernmental Revenues</u>			
<u>State/Federal</u>			
Highway Block Grant	161,059	161,059	-
Shared Revenue	31,493	38,343	6,850
Rooms & Meals Tax	172,591	172,591	-
Water Pollution Grants	24,502	24,502	-
Filtration Grant	-	-	-
Dept. of Justice - SRO Grant	39,944	73,843	33,900
State & Forest Land Reimbursement	476	476	-
Other State/Federal Revenue	805	58,732	57,927
Total Intergovernmental Revenues	<u>430,870</u>	<u>529,546</u>	<u>98,676</u>
<u>Charges for Services</u>			
Income from Departments	<u>539,795</u>	<u>636,794</u>	<u>96,999</u>
<u>Miscellaneous Revenues</u>			
Sale of Town Property	5,000	433	(4,567)
Interest on Investments	85,000	101,525	16,525
Insurance & Betterment Assessments	80,000	96,748	16,748
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	<u>170,000</u>	<u>198,706</u>	<u>28,706</u>
General Fund Revenues	<u>\$ 18,272,069</u>	<u>\$ 18,670,684</u>	<u>\$ 398,616</u>
<u>Other Financing Sources</u>			
Special Revenue Fund	221,453	222,430	977
Capital Projects Fund	700,000	370,604	(329,396)
Trust Funds	85,000	-	(85,000)
Total Other Financing Sources	<u>1,006,453</u>	<u>593,034</u>	<u>(413,419)</u>
<u>Unreserved Fund Balance Used To</u>			
Reduce Tax Rate	<u>500,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Revenues, Other Financing Sources and Use of Fund Balance	<u><u>\$ 19,778,522</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 19,763,718</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (14,803)</u></u>

Comparative Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures - General Fund

For the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2002
(Unaudited)

	2001 Encumbered	2002 Appropriation	2002 Expended	2003 Encumbered	Balance (Overdrafts)
<u>General Government</u>					
Executive Office	\$ 10,250	\$ 147,267	\$ 135,657	\$ 15,985	\$ 5,875
Executive - Municipal Administration	276,073	555,945	467,968	329,181	34,868
Personnel Administration	32,028	917,007	858,738	30,261	60,036
Town Clerk		98,612	96,154	1,769	689
Finance Department	2,685	183,915	179,046	6,200	1,354
Assessor	4,780	88,164	78,397	12,208	2,338
Tax Collector		50,197	48,765	750	682
Planning and Zoning	5,298	203,287	194,159	2,993	11,433
Regional Associations		130,510	119,344	2,500	8,666
<u>Public Safety</u>					
Police	3,598	928,462	903,547	12,642	15,871
Ambulance		204,750	204,612		138
Fire	60,760	194,859	216,394	19,669	19,556
<u>Public Works</u>					
Solid Waste Disposal	7,900	674,959	703,782		(20,923)
Building & Grounds	2,020	116,527	93,792	4,800	19,955
Highway Department	233,520	1,533,487	1,491,485	264,451	11,071
Cemetery		58,533	51,838	2,500	4,195
<u>Water Distribution</u>					
Hydrant Rental		69,000	69,000		-
<u>Health</u>					
Health Agencies		48,274	48,274		-
<u>Welfare</u>					
General Assistance		25,250	37,152		(11,902)
<u>Culture and Recreation</u>					
Parks and Recreation	3,622	189,049	172,220	13,245	7,206
Library	2,400	436,640	347,181		91,859
<u>Economic Development</u>					
Economic Development		32,800	13,370	19,431	-
<u>Debt Service</u>					
Principal - Long-Term Debt	145,000	412,530	557,530		-
Interest - Long-Term Debt	55,000	262,760	307,679		10,081
Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes					-
<u>Intergovernmental</u>		8,747,821	8,747,821		
School Appropriation		1,678,093	1,678,093		-
County Appropriation					-
<u>Other Financing Uses - Interfund Transfers</u>					
Conservation Commission		8,920	85,705		(76,785)
Expendable Trust Funds		715,000	715,000		-
<u>Total Appropriations,</u>					
<u>Expenditures, and Encumbrances</u>	\$ 844,934	\$ 18,712,618	\$ 18,622,702	\$ 738,585	\$ 196,265

Statement of Changes in Unreserved - Undesignated Fund Balance General Fund

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002
(Unaudited)

Fiscal Year 2002

Unreserved - Undesignated

<u>Fund Balance - January 1</u>	\$ 2,759,768
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Deductions

Unreserved Fund Balance Used To Reduce 2002 Tax Rate	(500,000)
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Subtotal	\$ 2,259,768
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Additions

<u>2002 Budget Summary</u>	
Revenue Surplus (Unaudited)	\$ 398,616
Unexpended Balance of Appropriations (Unaudited)	196,265

2002 Budget Surplus	594,881
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Unreserved - Undesignated

<u>Fund Balance - December 31 (Unaudited)</u>	<u>\$ 2,854,649</u>
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Fiscal Year 2003 - Worksheet

Unreserved - Undesignated

<u>Fund Balance - January 1, 2003 (Unaudited)</u>	\$ 2,854,649
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Deductions

Unreserved Fund Balance Used To Reduce 2003 Tax Rate	(1,250,000)
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Unreserved - Undesignated

<u>Fund Balance - January 1, 2003 (Unaudited)</u>	<u>\$ 1,604,649</u>
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Long-Term Indebtedness

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

(Unaudited)

Long-term debt payable at December 31, 2002 is comprised of the following individual issues:

Description of Issue	Original Amount	Issue Date	Maturity Date	Interest Rate %	Outstanding at 12/31/02
General Obligation Debt Payable					
1988 Sewer Extension Bonds	\$ 603,200	1988	2008	5.750%	\$ 237,102
1989 Library Improvement Bonds	\$ 750,000	1989	2008	5.750%	\$ 331,682
1988 Water System Improvement Bonds	\$2,000,000	1988	2016	5.750%	\$ 1,406,080
1994 Sewer Extension Bonds	\$ 229,000	1994	2014	4.500%	\$ 143,658
1998 Westbury Road Sewer Bonds	\$ 55,000	1998	2013	4.500%	\$ 47,458
1998 Wagon Wheel Sewer Bonds	\$ 211,874	1998	2013	5.370%	\$ 148,312
1999 Pleasant Street Sewer Bond	\$1,400,000	1999	2014	4.750%	\$ 1,011,520
2001 Neal Shore Sewer Bond	\$ 200,000	2001	2011	4.750%	\$ 180,000
2002 Plymouth Street/Route 3 North	\$ 512,820	2002	2032	4.500%	\$ 312,820
2002 Plymouth Street/Route 3 North	\$ 435,950	2002	2032	4.625%	\$ 235,950
2002 Plymouth Street/Route 3 North	\$ 376,208	2002	2008	1.430%	\$ 376,208
Total General Obligation Debt Payable - December 31, 2002					<u>\$ 4,430,790</u>

Annual Requirements To Amortize General Obligation Debt:

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2002	Governmental Fund Debt		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2003	\$ 539,240	\$ 209,931	\$ 749,171
2004	413,628	190,186	\$ 603,814
2005	427,716	170,369	\$ 598,085
2006	442,542	149,830	\$ 592,373
2007-2032	2,607,663	644,194	\$ 3,251,857
<u>Totals</u>	<u>\$4,430,790</u>	<u>\$1,364,510</u>	<u>\$ 5,795,299</u>

Compensated Absences Payable

Vacation and Sick Leave Including Benefits	<u>\$ 288,371</u>
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Treasurer's Account Summary

For the Fiscal Year Ended

December 31, 2002

(Unaudited)

General Fund - Operating

Balance 01/01/2002	3,834,246.36	
Receipts & Transfers	37,149,806.88	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(36,922,106.72)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		4,061,946.52

General Fund - Investments

Balance 01/01/2002	2,308,716.10	
Receipts & Transfers	3,304,169.66	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(4,501,178.13)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		1,111,707.63

Water Department

Balance 01/01/2002	109,484.63	
Receipts & Transfers	495,244.34	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(385,139.76)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		219,589.21

Sewer Department

Balance 01/01/2002	293,040.77	
Receipts & Transfers	590,298.97	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(513,403.57)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		369,936.17

Community Park

Balance 01/01/2002	2,295.54	
Receipts & Transfers	2.51	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>-</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		2,298.05

Community Center

Balance 01/01/2002	-	
Receipts & Transfers	25,000.00	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(1,623.68)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		23,376.32

Conservation Commission

Balance 01/01/2002	118,874.53	
Receipts & Transfers	10,325.00	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(85,704.99)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		43,494.54

Pleasant Street

Balance 01/01/2002	107,790.50	
Receipts & Transfers	-	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(107,790.50)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		-

Municipal Improvements

Balance 01/01/2002	5,834.70	
Receipts & Transfers	-	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(2,861.40)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		2,973.30

Prescott Park

Balance 01/01/2002	(187,050.40)	
Receipts & Transfers	503,555.23	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(297,373.49)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		19,131.34

Cable Franchise

Balance 01/01/2002	54,815.84	
Receipts & Transfers	39,669.67	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(25,122.50)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		69,363.01

Treasurer's Account Summary

For the Fiscal Year Ended

December 31, 2002

(Unaudited)

Land Use Change Tax

Balance 01/01/2002	11,530.00	
Receipts & Transfers	10,680.00	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(11,530.00)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		10,680.00

Landfill Closure

Balance 01/01/2002	(5,617.50)	
Receipts & Transfers	704,929.25	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(709,059.91)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		<u>(9,748.16)</u>

Plymouth Street/Rte 3 North

Balance 01/01/2002	(131,677.11)	
Receipts & Transfers	1,835,706.32	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(1,561,826.35)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		<u>142,202.86</u>

Engineering Funds/Retainage

Balance 01/01/2002	18,978.32	
Receipts & Transfers	30,318.02	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(27,041.03)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		<u>22,255.31</u>

Neal Shore Sewer

Balance 01/01/2002	31,441.36	
Receipts & Transfers	-	
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>(31,441.36)</u>	
Balance 12/31/2002		-

Balance All Funds 12/31/2002

6,089,206.10

Proof of Balance

Citizens Bank

Operating Account	549,670.83	
Outstanding Checks	<u>(1,307,509.16)</u>	
Reconciled Balance		(757,838.33)

Meredith Village Savings Bank

Payroll Account	6,046.93	
Outstanding Checks	<u>(4,546.11)</u>	
Reconciled Balance		1,500.82

Certificate of Deposit	<u>1,111,707.63</u>	1,111,707.63
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Engineering Account	25,516.30	
Outstanding Checks	<u>(3,260.99)</u>	
Reconciled Balance		22,255.31

Community Park Account	2,298.05	
Outstanding Checks	<u>-</u>	
Reconciled Balance		2,298.05

Municipal Money Market Account	<u>5,708,665.90</u>	5,708,665.90
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Baby Bicentennial Account #1	43.36	
Baby Bicentennial Account #2	<u>43.36</u>	
		86.72

Cash on Hand	<u>530.00</u>	530.00
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Reconciled Balance 12/31/2002

6,089,206.10

Tax Collector's Report

Summary of Warrants

1-1-02 to 12-31-02

<u>Debits</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Uncollected Taxes 1-1-02		
Property Taxes		\$ 771,397.16
Betterment Assessments		9,670.64
Land Use Change Tax		-
Yield Taxes		1,857.60
Water Rents		72,454.09
Sewer Rents		133,432.01
Taxes Committed to Collector		
Property Taxes	15,948,903.58	
Betterment Assessments	63,379.80	
Land Use Change Tax	16,680.00	4,000.00
Yield Taxes	4,602.06	21,285.15
Water Rents	295,674.50	
Sewer Rents	557,558.10	
Overpayments		
Property Taxes	27,536.91	1,872.31
Yield Taxes	425.71	59.57
Water Rents	37.78	-
Sewer Rents	30.00	-
Interest Collected		
Property Taxes	10,933.41	29,008.00
Betterment Assessments	7.00	267.70
Yield Taxes	-	225.23
Land Use Change Tax	9.48	-
Water Rents	252.71	1,059.48
Sewer Rents	556.05	1,969.91
Total Debits	<u>\$ 16,926,587.09</u>	<u>\$ 1,048,558.85</u>
Credits		
Remitted to Treasurer		
Property Taxes	\$ 14,912,044.84	\$ 773,022.78
Betterment Assessments	40,427.76	9,670.64
Land Use Change Tax	16,680.00	4,000.00
Yield Taxes	3,226.45	20,181.75
Water Rents	226,932.36	72,256.44
Sewer Rents	434,333.53	132,901.41
Interest	11,758.65	32,530.32
Abatements		
Property Taxes	1,930.40	246.69
Betterment Assessments	481.39	
Water Rents	1,663.74	257.22
Sewer Rents	3,011.70	530.60
Uncollected Taxes 12-31-02		
Property Taxes	1,062,465.25	-
Betterment Assessments	22,896.36	-
Land Use Change Tax	-	-
Yield Taxes	1,375.61	2,961.00
Water Rents	67,116.18	-
Sewer Rents	120,242.87	-
Total Credits	<u>\$ 16,926,587.09</u>	<u>\$ 1,048,558.85</u>

Tax Collector's Report

Summary of Tax Lien

1-1-02 to 12-31-02

<u>Debits</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>Prior</u>
Uncollected Liens 1-1-02		\$ 161,240.80	\$ 79,507.30	\$ 16,502.00
Liens Executed During 2002	\$ 359,861.30			
Interest after Lien	10,166.89	18,697.13	26,174.00	4,314.54
Redemption Costs	1,244.45	937.75	1,407.00	109.75
Total Debits	\$ 371,272.64	\$ 180,875.68	\$ 107,088.30	\$ 20,926.29
<u>Credits</u>				
Remitted to Treasurer				
Redemptions	\$ 197,675.83	\$ 80,419.84	\$ 73,716.21	\$ 14,819.62
Interest & Costs	11,411.34	19,634.88	27,581.00	4,424.29
Abatements	3,504.79	332.08	322.17	106.77
Deeded to Town				
Uncollected Liens 12-31-02	158,680.68	80,488.88	5,468.92	1,575.61
Total Credits	\$ 371,272.64	\$ 180,875.68	\$ 107,088.30	\$ 20,926.29

Tax Collector's Summary

The tax rate for the 2002 tax year decreased by 15.7%. This was due to an increase in the property tax base. Some of the increased value was from new construction but most was due to a town wide adjustment of property tax values which brings our assessed values closer to fair market value. Below is a comparison of the 2001 and 2002 tax rates which shows the decrease and the percentage change.

Taxing Entity	2002 Rate	2001 Rate	Decrease	% Change
Municipal	\$6.09	\$6.99	\$0.90	12.9%
School (local)	\$4.72	\$5.47	\$0.75	13.7%
School (statewide)	\$4.84	\$6.09	\$1.25	20.5%
County	<u>\$1.82</u>	<u>\$2.18</u>	<u>\$0.36</u>	<u>16.5%</u>
Total Rate and Change	\$17.47	\$20.73	\$3.26	15.7%

In 2001, Meredith became a donor town. Most of the tax collected under the statewide school tax remains in Meredith. Only 1.57% of the 2002 property tax warrant was sent to the State. If you have concerns regarding the tax rate, please attend the Town and School meetings in March.

After April 1st, the Town accepts payments towards the 2003 property taxes. If you are delinquent in your tax payments, please contact Valerie (Vikki) Fogg, the Deputy Tax Collector, to make payment arrangements. Partial payments towards delinquent taxes reduce the amount of interest due and the burden to the taxpayer. You may wish to contact your mortgage holder and ask them about starting a tax escrow account.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Valerie (Vikki) Fogg, Deputy Tax Collector

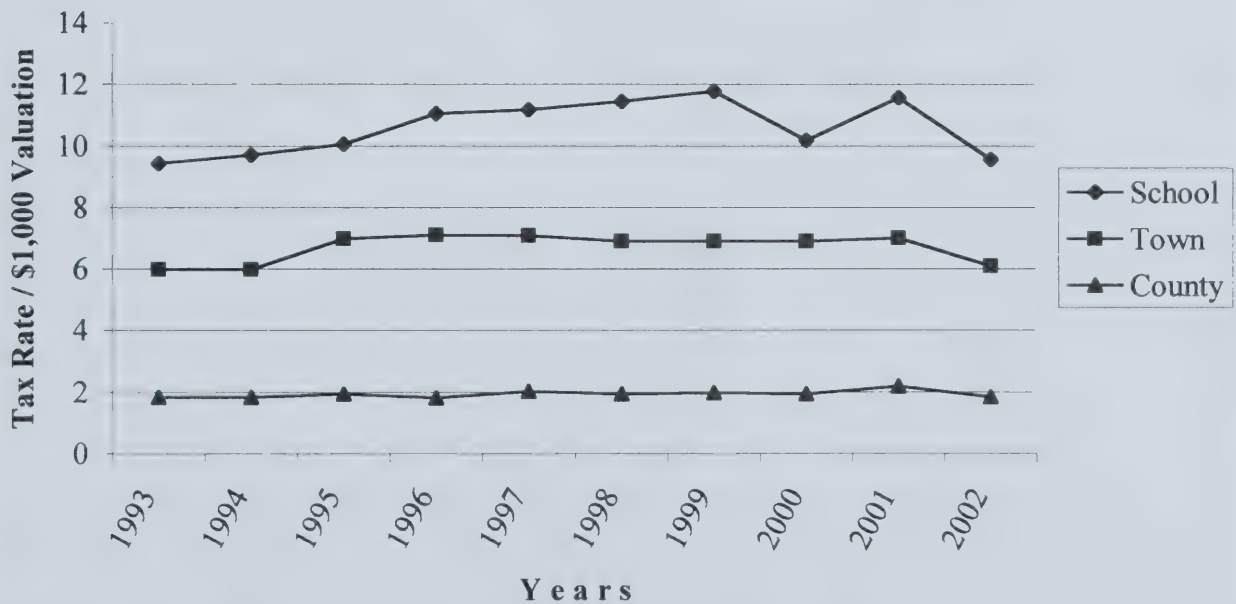
2002 Tax Rate Calculation Town of Meredith

		2002 Tax Rates per \$1,000 Valuation	
Appropriations	\$ 9,961,659		
Less: Revenues	4,799,226		
Less: Shared Revenues	36,312		
Add: Overlay	394,590		
War Service Credits	<u>59,450</u>		
Approved Town Tax Effort		5,580,161	
Municipal Tax Rate		\$	<u>6.09</u>
Due to Regional School	8,497,853		
Less: Adequate Education Grant	-		
Less: State Education Taxes	<u>4,165,560</u>		
Approved School Tax Effort		4,332,293	\$ 4.72
State Education Taxes			
Equalized Valuation (No Utilities) X	5.80		
761,297,946		4,415,528	\$ 4.84
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (No Utilities)			
911,814,837			
Excess State Education Taxes to be Remitted to State			
School Tax Rate		\$	<u>9.56</u>
Due to County	1,678,093		
Less: Shared Revenue	<u>8,881</u>		
Approved County Tax Effort		1,669,212	
County Tax Rate		\$	<u>1.82</u>
Combined Tax Rate		\$	<u>17.47</u>
Total Property Taxes Assessed		15,997,194	
Less: War Service Credits		<u>59,450</u>	
Total Property Tax Commitment		<u>\$ 15,937,744</u>	
		<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>Assessment</u>
Net Assessed Valuation	\$ 911,814,837	4.84	\$ 4,415,528
State Education Taxes	\$ 917,182,137	12.63	\$ 11,581,666
Proof of Rate			<u>\$ 15,997,194</u>

Ten Year Tax Rate Comparison Town of Meredith

Year	School	Town	County	Combined Tax Rate	Net Valuation
1993	9.42	5.99	1.83	17.24	588,980,029
1994	9.69	5.99	1.83	17.51	591,943,189
1995	10.05	6.97	1.93	18.95	593,993,263
1996	11.05	7.10	1.81	19.96	575,967,000
1997	11.18	7.09	2.02	20.29	579,931,823
1998	11.44	6.89	1.94	20.27	589,261,949
1999	11.77	6.89	1.98	20.64	600,781,506
2000	10.17	6.89	1.93	18.99	692,241,498
2001	11.56	6.99	2.18	20.73	706,275,825
2002	9.56	6.09	1.82	17.47	911,814,837

Ten Year Tax Rate Comparison



SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Summary of Town Owned Property

Map & Lot	Location	Valuation
I02-021	Bear Island - Town Dock/Mail House	69,100
I07-006	Bear Island - Vacant Land	58,800
R08-014	Meredith Center Road - Childs Park	23,200
R08-015	Meredith Center Road - Childs Park	19,500
R08-047	Meredith Center Road - Vacant Land	17,400
R08-048	Meredith Center Road - Fire Station	185,300
R13-005	Lake Wicwas - Peninsula - Conservation Land	225,600
R13-006	Lake Wicwas - Island - Conservation Land	27,200
R13-007	Lake Wicwas - Island - Conservation Land	26,900
R14-001	Wicwood Shores Road - Hamlin Forest	472,900
R14-028	Chemung Road - Hamlin Forest	79,400
R14-029	Chemung Road - Wicwas Beach/Boat Ramp	99,000
R17-016	Chemung and Camp Waldron - Vacant Land	19,900
R17-035	Chemung and Old Stanton Road - Vacant Land	23,800
R17-036	Chemung Road - Vacant Land	27,100
R22-002	Tucker Mountain Road - Formerly Edgerly Schoolhouse	7,200
R22-007	Tucker Mountain Road - Town Forest	31,700
R22-013	Neddeau Road - Town Forest	57,800
R31-020	Carleton Road - Old Poor Farm - Town Forest	104,800
R32-001	Hermit Woods Road - Town Forest	57,100
R35-003	Pinnacle Ridge & Edgerly School Roads	15,600
R36-009	Drake Road	2,100
S02-005	Beattie and Old Center Harbor Roads - Conservation Land	34,900
S15-008	Jenness Hill Road - Public Works	574,300
S15-057	Boynton Road - Back Land	5,100
S18-055	Tracy Way - Part of Right of Way	17,100
S18-056	Tracy Way	19,200
S22-020	Parade Road - Waukegan Highlands Community Park	40,700
S22-022	Parade Road - Waukegan Highlands Community Park	207,800
S22-027	Tracy Way - Vacant Land	9,000
S23-021	Reservoir Road - Pumping Station	21,400
S23-051	Foundry Avenue/NH Route 104 - Green Belt	8,900
U01-01A	Neal Shore Road - Vacant Land	26,200
U01-034	Neal Shore Road - Right of Way	2,400
U03-028A	Waukegan Street - Bath House	21,900
U03-030	Waukegan Street - Waukegan Beach	253,900
U04-025	Waukegan Street - Monkey Pond	1,400
U05-01A	Waukegan Street - Water Department	18,500
U05-01B	Waukegan Street - Water Department	127,600

Summary of Town Owned Property continued...

Map & Lot	Location	Valuation
U05-002	Waukegan Street - Waukegan Park - Boat Ramp	156,900
U06-031	Waukegan Avenue - Swazey Park	151,700
U06-037	High Street - Parking Lot	42,200
U06-038	High Street - Parking Lot	44,900
U06-059	Main Street - Library	502,900
U06-060	Main Street - Community Park	67,300
U06-063	Water Street - Parking Lot	42,000
U06-112	Daniel Webster Highway - Fire Station	399,000
U06-117C	Lang Street - Swazey Cemetery	100
U06-145	Daniel Webster Highway - Town Docks	304,900
U07-044	Main Street - Municipal Building	240,700
U07-086A	Daniel Webster Highway - Water Line - Right of Way	700
U07-088	Daniel Webster Highway - Vacant Land	99,100
U07-107	Daniel Webster Highway - Pumping Station	80,100
U07-108	Daniel Webster Highway - Parking Lot	95,800
U07-121	NH Route 25 - Scenic Park	256,600
U07-123	NH Route 25 - Scenic Park	117,900
U07-126	Daniel Webster Highway - Hesky Park Boat Ramp	270,200
U07-127	Daniel Webster Highway - Hesky Park	373,200
U10-017	Philbrook Avenue - Pumping Station	12,900
U10-027A	Daniel Webster Highway - Vacant Land	66,200
U10-031	Daniel Webster Highway - Prescott Park	254,400
U10-033	Daniel Webster Highway - Prescott Park	43,300
U10-034	Daniel Webster Highway - Police Station	302,400
U10-035	Daniel Webster Highway - Vacant Land	56,000
U11-050A	Greenmore Road - Vacant Land	26,600
U11-067	Kelly Lane - Fire Pond	5,200
U11-071	Boynton Road - Meredith Village Cemetery	134,900
U12-004	Philbrook Avenue - Vacant Land	15,100
U12-015	Near Jenness Hill Road - Vacant Land	223,900
U14-001	Daniel Webster Highway - Waste Treatment Plant	63,600
U15-014A	NH Route 25 - Back Land	21,900
U15-019A	Pleasant Street - Clough Park	226,600
U15-027	Morrison Avenue - Cul-De-Sac	2,400
U33-015A	Cattle Landing Road - Parking Lot	52,200
U33-025	Cattle Landing Road - Town Docks	228,700
U35-010	Love Joy Sands Road - Parking and Town Dock	142,900
U39-058	Leavitt Park Road - Leavitt Park	732,800

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Summary Inventory of Valuation ~ All Properties

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002

Value of Land Only

Current Use	\$ 1,106,637
Residential	391,069,000
Commercial/Industrial	<u>25,303,300</u>

Total Value of Land 417,478,937

Value of Buildings Only

Residential	431,844,900
Manufactured Housing	6,640,800
Commercial/Industrial	<u>58,060,100</u>

Total Value of Buildings 496,545,800

Public Utilities

Electric	<u>\$ 5,367,300</u>
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Total Valuation Before Exemptions 919,392,037

Exemptions

Blind	27,000
Elderly	1,710,000
Totally & Permanently Disabled	450,000
Solar/Windpower	<u>22,900</u>

Total Exemptions 2,209,900

Net Taxable Valuation \$ 917,182,137

2003 Meredith Town Warrant

State of New Hampshire

TO THE INHABITANTS OF MEREDITH QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS:

You are hereby notified to meet at St. Charles Auditorium, 281 Daniel Webster Highway, in said Town on the second Tuesday of March next, March 11, 2003, from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM for the casting of ballots; and at 7:00 PM, Wednesday, March 12, 2003, at the Inter-Lakes Junior/Senior High School Gymnasium, 1 Laker Lane, in said Town to act on the following articles:

BALLOT ARTICLES TO BE ACTED UPON:

ARTICLE 1

To bring your ballots for:

One (1) Selectman for three (3) years
One (1) Trustee of Trust Funds for three (3) years
Three (3) Library Trustees for three (3) years

ARTICLE 2

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance, having to do with Wireless Telecommunication Facilities?

Purpose of the Amendment: The current ordinance requires annual safety and maintenance inspections of towers. The proposed amendment would require safety and maintenance inspections be conducted at a minimum, once every five years in accordance with industry standards.

ARTICLE 3

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance, having to do with the processing of wetland-related applications for Special Exception?

Purpose of the Amendment: The current ordinance requires that applications for Special Exception be referred to the Conservation Commission at least 30 days prior to the Zoning Board of Adjustment's public hearing on the application. The result has been needless delays in the processing of many applications. The proposed amendment would: (1) eliminate the mandatory 30-day referral period; (2) preserve the Conservation Commission's opportunity to comment on each application; and (3) require the Conservation Commission to provide its written comments and/or recommendations within 30 days of the receipt of an application for Special Exception.

ARTICLE 4

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance, having to do with fence heights?

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendment increases the maximum allowable fence height for fences installed within lot line setbacks from (five) feet to (six) feet.

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 5

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance, having to do with the use of Temporary Structures?

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendment (1) clarifies that Temporary Structures may be occupied on a residential building site during the period that the construction of a Primary Structure is in progress; and (2) provides that a Special Permit shall be required for any temporary unapproved use or activity on any residential property including the use of Temporary Structures.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Health Care for New Hampshire Resolution.

Whereas, New Hampshire residents pay the 12th highest cost of insurance in the country; and **Whereas**, the cost of health insurance premiums for families has increased by 45% over the past three years; and **Whereas**, 100,000 New Hampshire residents have no health coverage and 77% of them have a full-time worker at home; and **Whereas**, due to these rising costs almost half of New Hampshire's small business cannot afford health coverage for their employees, therefore be it resolved that we, the citizens of Meredith, New Hampshire, call on our elected officials from all levels of government, and those seeking office, to work with consumers, businesses, and health care providers to ensure that:

- Everyone, including the self-employed, unemployed and underinsured and small business owners has access to an affordable basic health plan similar to what federal employees receive;
- Everyone, including employers, consumers, and the state, local and federal government makes a responsible and fair contribution to finance the health care system;
- Everyone receives high quality care that is costs efficient and medically effective; and
- That those efforts help control the skyrocketing cost of health care.

(Request for article petitioned by 25 or more legal voters.)

(This resolution is non-binding and represents no fiscal impact)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to send the following resolution to the New Hampshire General Court:

Resolved, in its first two years of operation, the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) has helped communities throughout New Hampshire to preserve their natural, cultural and historic resources and, therefore, the State of New Hampshire should maintain funding for LCHIP in its next biennial budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue a portion of an old Class VI highway leading Easterly from Route 106 (Parade Road) toward Route 3 South referred to as Wadleigh Road, so called as the highway passes through the Zela Bucklin Grandchildren Trust property, Tax Map S-20 Lot 3, subject to a new layout and Selectmen's acceptance of this alternative layout through said property. Said new layout Road to be constructed as a potential through road as part of the subdivision development of the so-called Trust property.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable general fund Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Public Safety Building Expendable Trust for the purpose of purchasing land and building a public safety building within the Town of Meredith and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) toward this purpose and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated with in the operation budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to be added to the Community Center Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be added to the Property Assessment Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated with in the operation budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the Open Space/Conservation Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Boardwalk Improvements Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Cygnet Shores Pump Station Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the Municipal Building Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Downtown Parking Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) for the purpose of State Aid Reconstruction Program – 2 to 1 match for improvements to various roads under the State Aid Reconstruction Program, provided that the State of New Hampshire appropriates Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00).

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Employee Benefits Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for conducting an engineering survey on Pinnacle Park Road for the purpose of extending Municipal Sewer for the betterment of the lake.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Million Eight Hundred Thirty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$9,838,780) for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Board of Selectmen
Meredith, New Hampshire

Robert C. Flanders
Chairman

James F. Hughes
Selectman

Frank Michel
Selectman

2003 Meredith Budget

	2002 Estimated	2002 Actual	2003 Estimated
<u>Taxes</u>			
Yield	\$ 21,250	\$ 25,887	\$ 21,250
Boat	42,750	42,989	42,750
Land Use Change Tax	-	11,530	-
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	97,750	113,129	83,357
Total Taxes	161,750	193,535	147,357
<u>Licenses and Permits</u>			
Motor Vehicle Permits	950,000	1,068,313	950,000
Building Permits	22,500	28,305	25,000
Other Licenses, Permits, Fees	48,250	52,180	48,250
Total Licenses and Permits	1,020,750	1,148,799	1,023,250
<u>Intergovernmental Revenues</u>			
State			
Highway Block Grant	161,059	161,059	173,207
Shared Revenue	31,493	31,493	31,493
Rooms & Meals Tax	172,591	172,591	172,591
Water Pollution Grants	24,502	24,502	24,502
Housing & Community Development	-	-	-
State & Forest Land Reimbursement	476	476	476
Other State/Federal Revenue	805	66,387	22,405
Total Intergovernmental Revenues	390,926	456,508	424,674
<u>Charges for Services</u>			
Income from Departments	539,795	612,396	589,795
<u>Miscellaneous Revenues</u>			
Sale of Town Property	5,000	433	5,000
Interest on Investments	85,000	101,525	85,000
Insurance & Betterment Assessments	80,000	97,407	68,000
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	170,000	199,365	158,000
<u>Other Financing Sources</u>			
Interfund Transfers			
Special Revenue Fund	221,453	221,453	221,453
Capital Projects Fund	700,000	-	-
Trust Funds	85,000	-	-
Total Other Financing Sources	1,006,453	221,453	221,453
Total Revenues & Other Financing Sources	3,289,674	2,832,056	2,564,529
Unreserved Fund Balance Used To			
Reduce Tax Rate	500,000	500,000	1,250,000
Total Revenues, Other Financial Sources and Use of Fund Balance	\$ 3,789,674	\$ 3,332,056	\$ 3,814,529
Special Revenue Funds			
Sewer	347,061	403,831	342,334
Water	532,491	560,301	522,998
Proceeds from Long-term Bonds & Notes:	130,000	-	-
Grand Total All Funds	\$ 4,799,226	\$ 4,296,187	\$ 4,679,861

2003 Meredith Budget

	2002	2002	2003
	Appropriations	Expended	Recommended Appropriations
<u>General Government</u>			
Executive Office	\$ 147,267	\$ 141,392	\$ 153,052
Executive - Municipal Administration	657,745	622,878	555,610
Public Health	204,750	204,612	204,750
Personnel Administration	917,007	856,971	993,637
Town Clerk	98,612	97,923	105,521
Finance Department	183,915	182,561	200,468
General Assistance	25,250	37,152	35,500
Assessor's Office	88,164	85,826	116,038
Tax Collector's Office	50,197	49,515	52,794
Planning & Zoning Office	203,287	191,854	221,118
CIP - Capital Project	-	-	100,000
Non-CIP - Capital Projects	-	-	52,750
Regional Association	48,274	48,274	53,906
Health Agencies	130,510	121,844	135,991
<u>Public Safety</u>			
Police	926,693	912,590	1,040,587
Fire	194,859	175,303	200,324
<u>Public Works</u>			
Solid Waste Facility	674,959	695,882	707,301
Building & Grounds	116,527	96,572	297,707
Highway Department	1,533,487	1,522,622	1,603,954
Cemetery	58,533	54,338	69,136
<u>Culture and Recreation</u>			
Parks and Recreation	189,049	181,843	226,822
Library	436,638	344,781	383,951
<u>Debt Service</u>			
Principal - Long-Term Debt	412,530	412,530	400,240
Interest - Long-Term Debt	252,761	252,679	210,597
Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes	10,000	-	10,000
<u>Expendable Trust Funds</u>	715,000	715,000	825,000
Total General Fund	\$ 8,276,014	\$ 8,004,941	\$ 8,956,753
<u>Conservation Commission</u>	8,920	85,705	16,695
<u>Sewer Fund</u>	532,491	535,120	522,998
<u>Water Fund</u>	347,061	409,000	342,334
<u>Plymouth Street/Route 3 North</u>	700,000	700,000	-
Total Operating Budget All Funds	\$ 9,864,486	\$ 9,734,766	\$ 9,838,780
Encumbrances	844,945	844,945	738,585
Total Operating Budget All Funds	\$ 10,709,431	\$ 10,579,711	\$ 10,577,365
<u>Warrant Articles Not In Operating Budget</u>			
Article # 6 - East Bluff Village Betterment Assessment	130,000	130,000	-
Article #20 - CORE Program	2,500	2,500	-
Grand Total - Municipal Budget	\$ 10,841,931	\$ 10,712,211	\$ 10,577,365

2003 Municipal Tax Rate Projection

2003 Appropriations - Approved by Board of Selectmen	\$9,838,780
Less: 2003 Estimated Revenues - Other than Property Taxes	(\$4,679,861)
Less: Shared Revenues - Town Portion	(\$36,312)
Add: Proposed Overlay	\$394,590
Add: War Service Credits (Deducted from Property Tax Warrant)	<u>\$59,450</u>
Total Net Town Appropriation to be Raised by Taxation	<u><u>\$5,576,647</u></u>
2003 Estimated Tax Rate (Municipal Portion Only)	\$6.08
Compared to 2002 Tax Rate of \$6.09 (Municipal Portion Only)	

Warrant Article with Potential Tax Impact

(Included in 2003 Appropriations)

Article #20: \$ 25,000 - Pinnacle Park Road - Engineering Survey
This Article will allow the Town to conduct an engineering survey for the purpose of extending Municipal Sewer for the betterment of the lake.

Tax Impact: \$.003 per \$1,000 valuation for 2003

Meetings of Town Boards and Committees

Monday:	Board of Selectmen - 7:00 pm, 1st & 3rd Mondays, Conference Room, Police Station
Tuesday:	Library Trustees - 7:30 pm, 2nd Tuesday, Public Library Planning Board - 7:30 pm, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, Conference Room, Police Station
Thursday:	Conservation Commission - 7:00 pm, 1st Thursday, Conference Room, Police Station Zoning Board of Adjustment - 7:30 pm, 2nd Thursday, Conference Room, Police Station

Office Hours

Assessor's Office	M - F	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	279-4538
Code Enforcement	M - F	8:00 am - 12:30 pm 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm	279-4538
General Assistance	M - W	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	279-4538
	Closed Thursday's & Friday's		
Municipal Office	M - F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Planning & Zoning	M - F	8:00 am - 12:30 pm 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Public Library	T, W	10:00 am - 8:00 pm	279-4303
	TH	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	
	F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	
	SAT	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	
Public Works Department	M - F	7:30 am - 4:30 pm	279-6352
Includes Buildings & Grounds, Cemetery & Highway Departments			
Recreation Department	M - F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Solid Waste Facility	Daily -	8:00 am - 3:00 pm	279-8480
	Closed Wednesday's and Holidays		
Tax Collector	M - F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Town Clerk	M - F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Town Manager	M - F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Water & Sewer Department	M - F	7:00 am - 3:30 pm	279-3046

Town of Meredith

All Emergency Calls Dial "9-1-1"

Emergency & Health Information

Community Action Program	279-4096
Emergency Management Director	279-8933
Lakes Region General Hospital	524-3211
Meredith Public Health Nursing	279-6611
Hanover Poison Information Center	1-800-562-8236

Meredith Municipal Office

Business	279-4538
Fax	279-1042
Public Information Line (recorded message)	279-5373

Meredith Public Library

Business	279-4303
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Police/Fire-Local and State

Belknap County Sheriff's Department	524-3830
Meredith Fire Department non-emergency	279-6061
Meredith Police Department non-emergency	279-4561
State Police (Concord)	1-800-852-3411
State Police (Tamworth)	323-8112

We have the following available services for the general public at the Municipal Office.

Permits to Kindle Fires	279-4538
TDD	279-4538
Notary/Justice of the Peace	\$5.00/document